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# THE TIMES

No. 64,671

TUESDAY JUNE 15 1993

45p

## Thatcher in 'get behind John' appeal to Tories

An intervention from Lady Thatcher eases the pressures on the prime minister amid Tory right-wing concern about the rapid rise of Kenneth Clarke

By PHILIP WEBSTER, NICHOLAS WOOD AND SUELLA GUNN

BARONESS Thatcher intervened last night in the internal Conservative crisis of confidence to call on the party to throw its support behind John Major.

With support for Mr Major's leadership at its lowest ebb and speculation about a challenge to him this year or next, Lady Thatcher told a mutual friend that the party should not again become involved in "musical chairs".

She acknowledged her differences with Mr Major, her favoured successor, over Europe, but added: "We must all get behind John. Things will look differently in a year's time when we come out of recession. The only election that really matters is the next general election."

Lady Thatcher's intervention is likely to ease the pressure on Mr Major in the constituencies, many of which

time, Mr Clarke prepared to tell the City that all options remain open for his first Budget in November.

In his first policy speech as Chancellor, Mr Clarke is expected to admit tonight that tough times lie ahead and that the government must be ready for a lengthy period of unpopularity. In remarks aimed beyond his Guildhall audience of bankers, industrialists and economists to the wider public, he will deliver a cautious assessment on the state of the economy, predicting only modest and fitful growth in the coming year.

Mr Clarke, according to informed sources, believes that the government can regain public support provided it explains the need for tough decisions and proves that it has a long-term strategy. He believes that ministers "talked up" the recovery too soon, a factor that led to the poor Tory performance at Newbury.

Mr Major yesterday learnt, at first hand the strength of feeling in his party against income tax rises. A group of 30 senior MPs and just ministers cheered John Marshall, MP for Hendon South, at a Downing Street lunch when he said that the government should tackle its economic problems by cutting spending. Mr Major responded by pointing out that Norman Lamont's March Budget had already raised indirect taxes for the years ahead, but the MPs felt that his reply fell short of closing off the option of higher income tax.

Later, Mr Major's officials went out of their way to stress that raising tax would not break the Conservative party's manifesto commitments. Downing Street countered ministers' assertions that the Tory manifesto promised not to raise income tax or that it might be necessary to break manifesto commitments to tackle the deficit.

Mr Major, it was said, was determined to keep manifesto promises on spending and tax. But it was added, the manifesto left room for manoeuvre on taxation. It had promised to continue progress towards a 20p basic rate of income tax, but that was not the same thing as saying it prohibited a rise.

The clear intention appeared to be to give Mr Clarke maximum leeway. Mr Major personally is reluctant to countenance rises in the basic rate of tax, but many ministers believe he may have to sanction not only further increases in indirect taxation but also the freezing of personal allowances and the lowering

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Tansu Ciller, Turkey's first woman prime minister, is known as the Iron Lady. Her supporters see her as a 'wind of change' to sweep away the country's grey political establishment. Andrew Finkel, page 13; leading article, page 17

## Venables loses fight for control of Spurs

By JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

TERRY Venables yesterday lost his High Court fight to continue as executive director of Tottenham Hotspur, a savage blow to his hopes of buying out Alan Sugar as chairman of the Premier League football club.

In a dramatic final day of the three-day hearing, there were also allegations that Mr Venables had failed to give a "full and frank" explanation of how £58,750 in cash was withdrawn from the club's bank account during the transfer negotiations to buy Teddy Sheringham, the England forward, from Nottingham Forest.

In his judgment, Sir Donald Nicholls, head of the Chancery Division, declined to renew

the 32-day injunction against Mr Venables' dismissal, saying that such an order would override the majority division of the Tottenham board, which had the right to "hire and fire".

As Mr Venables left the High Court, however, hundreds of Tottenham supporters shouted their support for their former player, who has also been manager or chief executive since 1987 and led the club to win the FA Cup in 1991. Mr Venables' only comment was "I understand the decision" as he got into a taxi, with other Aldwych drivers hounding their support.

In contrast, Mr Sugar, chairman of Amstrad, slipped away with his wife and advisers

through the judge's rooms, to boos, hisses and shouts of "Judas" and "We want Sugar out" from the Tottenham supporters.

Mr Sugar will now face problems with the players, many of whom submitted affidavits giving their backing to Mr Venables. Terry Fenwick, the former England defender, said: "This will wreck the club."

Eric Hall, the football agent, who is a friend of Mr Venables, said that up to 12 players would want transfers, adding: "I think Terry lost the battle maybe today. But the war is still on, and he will win the war."

Venables fights on, page 3

## Coldstream earmarked for Bosnia

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Coldstream Guards have been put on notice that they are next in line for a six-month tour of Bosnia-Herzegovina, starting in late October or early November.

The "warning order" indicates that the government is ready to deploy troops to Bosnia beyond the 12-month limit ministers originally believed adequate for Britain's contribution to the United Nations humanitarian aid operation. Although Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, never imposed a strict 12-month limit, he made clear that other countries should play a role in Bosnia and promoted the idea, with Nato allies, that there should be a rotation.

The decision to earmark a battalion for a third tour of duty in Bosnia is in direct contrast to the current mood in Westminster, where MPs have been calling for the withdrawal of the soldiers from Vitez in central Bosnia. There are, however, no immediate plans to relocate the 850 soldiers in Vitez.

Major James Myles, speaking from the base, said: "We are here saving lives, and we are very much intent on seeing the job finished. If we were to withdraw now there would be a bloodbath... Armageddon has not started here, and the British troops are not the target."

Croatia file, page 11

## UN battles on as Somali killings are condemned

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE United Nations yesterday defied international condemnation of its efforts to bring peace to Somalia and followed up a series of American air strikes on Mogadishu with another helicopter attack, injuring 12 civilians.

The assault came as aid agencies denounced the killing of at least 20 demonstrators by Pakistani troops on Sunday and as the local warlord, General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, accused the UN of genocide. Italy said the shootings discredited the UN, while both France and Boutros Boutros Ghali, the secretary-general, regretted the killings.

As Dr Boutros Ghali claimed at the Vienna human rights conference that the UN was close to achieving total disarmament in Somalia, diplomats and officials offered a range of explanations for the incident on Sunday in which Pakistani opened fire on a crowd of demonstrators: the soldiers had been fired on by protesters; gunmen in the crowd had used women and children as human shields; Somalis had killed some of the victims, and the Pakistani shortage of equipment was to blame.

Later, when a UN helicopter missed its multi-rocket launcher target, injuring 12 local people, the head of UN operations in Somalia denied that there had been any civilian casualties.

American AC130 gunships had earlier destroyed lorries and heavy construction equipment, armoured cars and battle wagons near General Aidid's home. Lt-Col Kevin McGovern, a UN military spokesman, said that no civilians had been killed, but the charred body

of a young boy lay just outside the warlord's house. General Aidid responded to the pounding with an appeal to the UN to stop its aggression. "I am ready to meet and talk to the UN, but only after they stop the bombings on our people," he told a press conference.

These people are aggressors. I am for peace. The ongoing genocide by the UN has no moral basis."

The UN's conduct also came under fire from relief agencies. The international charity CARE urged the UN



Aidid: accused UN of genocide

to stop all military activity, saying it was preventing it supplying food for 100,000 hungry people, while the America-based charity World Vision, Britain's Save the Children and Médecins Sans Frontières of Belgium also voiced concern at the effect of Sunday's killings on future relief efforts. Médecins Sans Frontières condemned the killing of civilians and said the Pakistani reaction had been completely out of proportion.

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Peter Brooke, page 16

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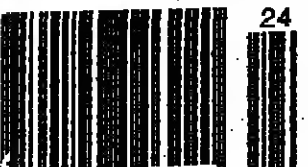
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# The honourable way out is Major's only option

UNTIL such time as John Major volunteers the end of his prime-ministership, the dominant question in British politics will not be "whether" but "when" he is going to step down.

There is no doubt that the prime minister is a pleasant and engaging man, and that those who know him like him and consequently, and naturally, feel loyal and almost protective towards him. There is no doubt also that he was an election that Margaret Thatcher would have lost. Those who believe a Conservative majority is a prerequisite of effective government and fundamental to the national interest owe him an enormous debt of gratitude. But politics is foremost about power and using that power for the good of the country — not about personal obligations.

Norman Lamont was displaced from office not because the prime minister disagreed with him, nor because he was concerned at his political approach, but because the prime minister was persuaded that he lacked the credibility to be an effective Chancellor. How much



*John Major's bacon was cooked the day the Danish voted no to Maastricht. Now, says Tony Marlow, Conservative MP for Northampton North, he should do the decent thing*

more important for the prime minister to enjoy that credibility?

Since the election, Mr Major has enjoyed these qualities. Certainly without them the government cannot escape its predicament. There are two immediate and immense issues facing the government. First, how are we to reduce the massive government deficit while maintaining growth and without damaging either incentive and future prosperity or the perception of social fairness and the adequacy of the welfare state? Tough decisions will be needed. Tough decisions to be effective must be carried out with a sense of purpose and vision. They must be "sold" in such a way that they will be "bought" by the nation. Any tough decision taken by Mr Major would

lack, it is not surprising that the public should concentrate on the prime minister's degree of possession of these qualities. Certainly without them the government cannot escape its predicament.

Second, there is Maastricht and Europe — the curse of Mr Major. The party in Parliament and the country is divided. The objectives of many of the party activists for the heart of Europe are more brutal than those advocated by the prime minister. Confusion is compounded still further by the new policy of a united party fighting to retain powers from Brussels once the treaty is ratified. Why surrender the powers in the first place? Why deny the United Kingdom a referendum while neighbouring electorates have been trusted by their governments? If Maastricht is ratified under the present procedures it will lack all

legitimacy in Britain. If Douglas Hurd is wrong, and we are not "winning the argument" and the Maastricht contract is enforced by the other 11 countries against our will, what will be the quality of our relationship with Europe? Apparently Mr Major is unable to accept a British referendum. If so, he is unable to repair the fissure in the government party and hence weakened in his ability to govern. Our toleration of remote, bureaucratic rule from Brussels is close to terminal decline. Ratification without referendum fastens the lid on the coffin.

Mr Lamont warned of the dangers of being in office but not in power. In fighting the battle against the deficit and reconciling Britain to an acceptable, beneficial and independent approach to Europe, a prime minister will need the power as well as the office. With a divided party, perceived responsibility for our present difficulties and a reputation for weak and vacillating leadership, Mr Major lacks such power. How long will it be before he recognises his predicament and makes the logical and honourable deduction?

When Mr Redwood became a minister, I recorded this first example of Vulcan penetration into the junior ranks of government. I also recorded doubts as to whether Messrs Lilley, Howard and Portillo were pure-bred humans. It now falls to this sketch, which we may re-name *VulcanWatch*, to announce that a full-blooded Vulcan has for the first time entered the British cabinet. John Redwood, the Welsh secretary, came to the Commons yesterday to report on flooding in the principality (or "testing zone" as they speak of Wales on Vulcan). He was accompanied by his PPS, David Evans (C, Wylwyn, Hatfield, human, very), recruited in an attempt to "humanise" his master, teach him jokes, explain about love, merriment, sin, etc. Mr Evans has been having some limited success. At the weekend, Redwood's address to the Welsh Tory conference had featured the pseudo-humanoid singing *God Save the Queen* in Welsh, head jerking strange-



**MATTHEW PARRIS**  
POLITICAL SKETCH

## Redwood shows his human nature

Years ago, this column was first to spot the entry into the Commons, under deep cover, of the only Vulcan ever elected to Parliament. John Redwood had arrived on the Tory backbenches.

Vulcans come from the planet of the same name. Their most famous expatriate (half-Vulcan) is *Star Trek's* Mr Spock. They are super-intelligent and utterly logical, resembling humans in every respect except that they have no emotions, and many have pointed ears. The new breed, like Mr Redwood, have their ears straightened in private clinics, so it is very hard to know when you are dealing with a Vulcan, but a giveaway sign is a steady, emotionless voice and chilling stare. They also exhibit gaps in knowledge about the folkier side of life on planet Earth, and will occasionally react to human displays of passion or humour with complete bafflement.

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ly — it is a simple matter, you see, to programme a Vulcan with an extra language, even Welsh. So far so good. Yesterday's statement, his first as a secretary of state, was an important new test.

Alan, attaining power has caused Redwood to revert. Striding in, attempting, mechanically, to swing the arms as humans do, he sat down, then rose in one smooth movement, staring icily into space.

"The — damage — has — been — very — extensive," he softly droned, in that BT directory enquiries machine voice, "eighty — five — percent — of — eligible — expenditure — over — the — threshold — ...". Had he gone on to say "the — number — you — require — is — Llandudno — 0 — 4 — 9 — 2 — ...", few would have been surprised.

Alan Williams (Lab, Carmarthen) decided to test him. The "Bellwin rule", said Williams (a formula for allowing relief payments) "is a fig leaf". Vulcans are weak at imagery: Redwood activated his WordSearch programme and established that *Bellwin rule* does not mean *fig leaf*. "No — it — is — not — a — FIG LEAF," he droned, aware of a need to hit the Indignation Key, but hitting it on the wrong word.

But the performance was not altogether discouraging. Various backbenchers tried to short-circuit his logic system by putting the middle-headed proposal that uninsured householders should be compensated by the government. At this, I saw Mr Redwood's eyes swivel involuntarily. Through my sound-amplifier I just managed to eavesdrop the interference from his internal circuitry: *very faintly*: "ll — log — ic — al" [*crackle-crackle*] "ll — log — ic — al". But something (a tap on the shoulder from Evans?) stopped him. He rose — appreciate — problem. There — is — mayors' fund ... he whirled. Our Vulcan is learning.

## President of Timex UK quits

Continued from page 1 yesterday insisted, "I have resigned", in spite of union claims that he was dismissed.

Mr Hall's management style drew strong local opposition in Dundee after the start of the dispute five months ago. A strike over lay-offs led to the dismissal of the company's 340-strong workforce, many of them women. New recruits, hired in an area of high unemployment, were taken into the plant by bus, leading to violent scenes.

Margaret Ewing, leader of the Scottish National Party, said: "Whatever the reasons for Mr Hall's departure, he has managed to whip up a huge amount of personal antagonism ... It may be that his departure will open the door for just and fair discussions."



Pickers' target: the resignation of Peter Hall, president of Timex in Britain, followed months of personal hostility from strikers

## Ministers face long and bitter debate on strategy to tackle overspend

### Cabinet division looms over tax rises

By PHILIP WEBSTER  
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AN ANGUISHED cabinet debate over how the government can tackle the projected £50 billion budget deficit began in public at the weekend. It will be continued in private on Thursday, when ministers meet to decide the remit for Michael Portillo's annual spending review that will reach its climax with the first unified tax and spending Budget on November 30.

At the heart of the argument is whether the Conservatives, winners of four elections at the

party of reducing taxation, may have to turn turtle and raise taxes to regain their reputation as the party of sound money. John Major, Michael Heseltine, John Redwood and Peter Lilley have drawn the battle lines for a discussion that can have no conclusion for months.

In his speech to the Welsh Tories on Friday, the prime minister indicated his clear preference for spending cuts against tax rises, but indicated that if taxes were to be increased the indirect route was to be preferred.

Mr Heseltine highlighted the dilemma starkly, saying

most revenue-raising options had a manifesto commitment set against them. "If you then say, 'Fine, we've made a manifesto commitment, all the options are blocked off, well I tell you it won't be a £50 billion deficit we are dealing with next year, it will be a bigger one,'" he said.

Mr Redwood, the Welsh secretary, told the Welsh Tories: "Just over a year ago our manifesto said no to increased income taxes. It was right then. It is right today."

Mr Lilley told BBC radio: "No government likes to raise taxes, certainly not direct taxes. We must put the spotlight

on the whole range of public expenditure."

It is the toughest question facing the new chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, and one, according to close friends, on which he is a long way from a decision. The debate on Thursday will give him some guidance on what the cabinet will tolerate.

The cabinet can be divided into three groups: those opposed to tax increases in all circumstances, those who would prefer to avoid them, and those who believe they may be necessary and that the government should say so. Into the first group would go

Mr Lilley, Mr Redwood and probably Mr Portillo.

In the second would be Mr Major, Michael Howard, the home secretary, John MacGregor, the transport secretary, Gillian Shephard, the agriculture minister, Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary and, say well-placed sources, Mr Clarke.

In addition, five ministers would be expected to back the Major-Clarke line regardless. These are Lord Wakeham, the Lords leader, Peter Brooke, the heritage secretary, Tony Newton, the Commons leader, Sir Patrick Mayhew, the

Northern Ireland secretary, and Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor.

The third group is headed by Mr Heseltine. He would probably be supported in cabinet by David Hunt, the employment secretary, John Gummer, the environment secretary, Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, John Patten, the education secretary, William Waldegrave, the Citizen's Charter minister, and Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary. All of them are less ideologically opposed to tax increases; most head big-spending departments in the sights of Mr Portillo.

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## Budget deficit starts hunt for chinks in manifesto armour

By JILL SHERMAN  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Heseltine's assertion that manifesto commitments might have to be abandoned to ease the £50 billion budget deficit has sparked off an immediate scrutiny of the more vulnerable pledges in the document.

Ministers supporting tax increases in this year's unified Budget will find that particularly hard to square with the manifesto, which unashamedly argues the case for tax cuts.

"We are the only party that understands the need for low taxation," it says. "High taxes kill the goose that lays the golden eggs." However, the document's only clear commitment to reducing taxation is to cut the basic rate of tax. It says: "We will make further progress towards a basic income tax rate of 20p."

Downing Street made clear yesterday that the prime minister had no intention of ditching this pledge.

The manifesto commits the government to maintaining mortgage tax relief but does not specify at what rate or who it should go to, leaving a little room to manoeuvre. But it



Heseltine: manifesto is not sacrosanct

puts forward a muddled message on public spending, arguing that spending needs to be kept firmly under control yet also committing the party to increased health spending, child benefit and pensions.

Keeping control of public spending will enable us to cut taxes while bringing the government's budget back towards balance in the years ahead," it says. But it adds: "Lower taxes and a prudent approach to borrowing do not mean public spending must fall. Quite the reverse."

One of the party's most costly pledges is to raise the

£30 billion health service budget in real terms for each year of this Parliament. Although many ministers argued in last year's spending round that health should not be so heavily protected, the new Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, has already pledged that this will be honoured. While insisting that he will take a tough approach to spending, he talks about "restraining" rather than "cutting" public expenditure.

Michael Portillo, chief secretary to the Treasury, has indicated that the £80 billion social security budget is his main target for savings. Universal benefits for pensioners and children are the most likely victims in the longer term, but Mr Portillo's hands are tied by manifesto commitments in both areas.

The document pledges that the basic state retirement pension "will remain the foundation for retirement". It will also remain inflation-linked. Child benefit is also protected, but the pledge is vague enough to allow the government to tax the benefit or to target it on the under-fives.

Thatcher unity call, page 1

## Thatcher backs Major

Continued from page 1 of the higher tax band. After the meeting, attended by MPs from all parts of the Tory spectrum, rightwingers said there was no doubt that the government was trying to soften backbench opinion for a possible income tax increase. One gave a warning that Mr Major could not get such a measure through the Commons. The meeting took place

against the background of a continuing whispering campaign about Mr Major's leadership and one MP reported that Mr Major was understandably "not in sparkling form" and that he appeared tired and strained.

As MPs were urging Mr Major to take a grip on the cabinet wrangling over tax, Tony Marlow, the MP for Northampton, North, became

the first backbencher to ask him to consider in his position. In an article in *The Times* today, Mr Marlow says: "With a divided party, perceived responsibility for our present difficulties and a reputation for weak and vacillating leadership, John Major lacks power. How long will it be before he recognises his predicament and makes the logical and honourable deduction?"

## 2,000 hit by flooding

The flooding in North Wales may have made 2,000 people in the Llandudno, Conwy and Llandudno Junction areas homeless. Alan Carr, Aberconwy council's chief executive, said yesterday: "As the floods recede we are beginning to realise the scale of the damage. For some people it will be many months before they can return to their homes."

## Nadir query for Fowler

Sir Norman Fowler, the Conservatives' chairman, will be challenged tomorrow to justify undeclared donations to the party of £440,000 from Asil Nadir, the fugitive businessman. The Commons home affairs committee will interrogate him, as part of its enquiry into political party funding, on why the party accepts donations from abroad and anonymous gifts.

## Private jail firm cleared

A Home Office enquiry into Corrections Corporation of America, part of a consortium running Blakenhurst prison, Hereford and Worcester, has found it fit to operate in Britain. A prison service board official went to America to look into claims including the maltreatment of inmates, but found no evidence to suggest CCA should not run jails here.

## Trawlermen escape fire

Three men were winched to safety from a burning trawler off Whitby, North Yorkshire. The crewmen aboard the *Tia B* radioed for help after a fire started in the cabins at 4pm. A Sea King helicopter from RAF Leconfield rescued them and transferred them to the Whitby lifeboat. They were not injured.

## Body found in sack

Detectors are investigating links with the shooting of James Moody, 52, the gangster shot dead in a London pub two weeks ago, after the discovery yesterday of a body washed ashore in a sack on the morning tide at Sheerness, Kent. The victim, who had at least two shotgun wounds to his chest, was probably dumped at sea two weeks ago.

## Pigeon's lucky landing

A lost racing pigeon, which landed on a barge in the North Sea, 500 miles from its Nottingham home, was picked up by Paul Bush, a merchant seaman who, when not at sea, lives just a few hundred yards from the bird's owner, whom he did not know. He said he was stunned by the coincidence.



Judge says club must face the fact that Tottenham Hotspur's 'dream ticket' lies in shreds

## Venables vows to continue fight for control of Spurs

By JOHN GOODBODY AND RICHARD DUCK

TERRY Venables said last night that he would continue his fight against Alan Sugar despite losing his High Court case to remain chief executive of Tottenham Hotspur.

He said that he would proceed with a Companies Court petition, that if successful could give him control of the Premier League club, unless advised otherwise by his lawyers.

"I believe that course to be in the best interests of Tottenham Hotspur," he said in a statement last night. "I am no less confident of my case today than when I was wrongfully dismissed as chief executive on May 14."

Mr Venables remains a director with 23 per cent of the shares, compared to the 48 per cent of Mr Sugar. Mr Venables has had an understanding from Mr Sugar that he will not be removed from the board. Mr Sugar, the chairman of Tottenham Hotspur and Arsenal, spoke yesterday of his "hell and anguish" of the last month. He said that he was "deeply aggrieved" by Mr Venables' action.

In the meantime, Mr Sugar still faces a possible contempt of court hearing. This follows claims by Mr Venables that there was an attempt to interfere with one of his witnesses, Jonathan Crystal, a libel lawyer and his only ally on the Tottenham board. Martin Mann QC, for Mr Venables, told Sir Donald Nicholls, head of the chancery division, that he still hoped an "accommodation" might be arrived at over the contempt move. Mr Sugar accepted that he had acted hastily and had apologised.

Mr Venables can scarcely relish further court hearings. He must meet costs of this hearing, estimated at

£100,000, and will need a total of about £20 million to meet possible future legal costs and, in particular, the finances required for the mandatory cash offer.

In his 20-minute judgment yesterday, the judge termed the original partnership between the two men a dream ticket, but accepted they could not work together.

He said that keeping Mr Venables in the post, from which he was sacked on May 14 only to obtain a High Court injunction the same day, would "merely postpone the



Sugar faces possible action for contempt

date at which all concerned must face up to the fact that his appointment, for better or worse, had been terminated."

The judge said that whether the seeking was in the best interests of the club was not for the court to decide. He said that Mr Venables' case that he was unfairly prejudiced by recent actions of Mr Sugar would be "fraught with difficulty" when it came to proving it at a full hearing for control of the club.

Earlier in the hearing, Philip Heslop QC, for Mr Sugar, said that Mr Venables had failed to give a "full and frank"

explanation of how £58,750 in cash was withdrawn from Tottenham's bank account during negotiations to buy Teddy Sheringham, the England international forward.

Mr Heslop said the money went to a company, First Wave Management, run by Frank McLintock, the former Scotland and Arsenal player, and the invoice showed it was payment for "distribution, network, travel and merchandising" for the club in the United States. Mr Venables, it was alleged, assured Mr Sugar that the use of a middleman in transfer negotiations was commonplace and not in breach of FA or Premier League rules.

Mr Heslop said: "Plainly, on that evidence, money has been paid to Mr McLintock pursuant to an invoice which does not reflect the services which, according to Mr Venables and Mr McLintock, the firm has rendered. This is a serious matter."

Speaking at his City solicitors after the court ruling, Mr Sugar said there were no plans yet to name a new manager at the club and it was not clear if the post of chief executive would be refilled. He said: "My reaction is obviously one of relief. In the next few days we will be talking to the playing department and playing staff."

Mr Sugar said none of the players who had expressed support for Mr Venables should feel that they were under any threat. Mr Sugar said that his offer to buy Mr Venables' shares no longer stood. "I made Mr Venables a reasonable offer for him to walk away with dignity and pride, and he chose the other route."

Venables loses, page 1



Smiling through: Terry Venables leaving the High Court in London yesterday. He faces a legal bill of £100,000

## Juggler who lost control of the ball

By A STAFF REPORTER

TERRY Venables wakes up this morning with another financial ball to juggle, in the shape of £100,000 court costs. That would have seemed an enormous amount to the young man who sprang, all sharp elbows, flash footballing talent and dreaming ambition, from a council estate in Dagenham.

But Mr Venables has in latter years become used to dealing, and some would say wheedling, in large sums of

money, and not only in the telephone number transfer fees of modern football. He raised £2.5 million to buy a 23 per cent stake in Tottenham in 1991, making him the first man to play for, manage and part-own a big English soccer club. He later admitted that the loan stretched him to his financial limit.

He owns a nightclub in Kensington and last year another business, a Mayfair wine bar, was repossessed owing £50,000 in rent. Mr Venables had no more luck with three pubs into which

he put money and which ran into difficulties. The reason for the Tottenham Hotspur deal was to save the club from bankruptcy — it had debts of £16 million — and also from the clutches of the newspaper tycoon Robert Maxwell, who was showing an appetite for swallowing football clubs.

That was where Alan Sugar came in, with his millions from the successful Amstrad computer company. The two men's common enterprise has since come drastically unstuck.

## Loyalty of fans and players is unshaken

By A STAFF REPORTER

HAVING successfully seen off Tottenham Hotspur's chief executive, Alan Sugar must now do battle with the players and supporters who have been outspoken in Terry Venables' defence. He could find it a more difficult — and more costly — battle to win.

The fans were fickle. Mr Sugar had asserted when Mr Venables was initially dismissed on May 14, the eve of the FA Cup final, providing the team was winning at the beginning of next season, they would soon forgive and forget. The players, he maintained, would have no option but to fulfil their contracts.

But within an hour of yesterday's High Court decision, Mr Sugar was reminded that the loyalty of both groups was unshaken. Teddy Sheringham, the striker whose £2.1 million transfer from Nottingham Forest was one of the central issues of the hearing, said he feared the decision could break up the side. Supporters have promised to hit the club in its pockets by refusing to renew season tickets.

Eric Hall, the agent who handles the affairs of several Tottenham players, said that Mr Sugar could not count on them to stay at the club. "I represent about 12 players at Tottenham Hotspur and they've all told me in the last couple of days that they certainly will put in for transfers."

Mr Sugar must also resolve the futures of Doug Livermore, the club's coach, and Ray Clemence, his assistant. Both have said they would consider their positions should Mr Venables leave. Sheringham, 27, who is with the England squad in the United States, said: "I'm sick for Terry. I know how much he wanted to succeed. To get ousted when he felt on the threshold of something great is a crying shame."

## Murder victim's mother confronts Sams in court

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE mother of Julie Dart was involved in an emotional courtroom confrontation yesterday with the man accused of murdering her daughter.

Lynn Dart stood less than five yards from Michael Sams and shouted: "He's mine, him." It was the culmination of a brief battle of wills between the two on the fourth day of Sams' trial at Nottingham Crown Court.

Mrs Dart, 40, a secretary at Leeds Polytechnic, had entered the court 15 minutes before to give evidence about the last time she had seen her 18-year-old daughter alive, in July 1991. It is alleged that Sams killed Miss Dart, after picking her up while she was working as a prostitute.

Mrs Dart had looked around the courtroom as she walked to the witness box and then fixed her eyes on the dock as she took the oath. Before the first question was asked she

mouthed "You bastard" at Sams, who at first held and returned her gaze.

During the brief question-and-answer session her eyes rarely left Sams and he eventually turned his head away. Mrs Dart trembled as she answered questions from Christopher Hotten, for the prosecution. Only once did the emotion overwhelm her, when he asked: "Did Julie live with you?" Mrs Dart's voice broke and she sobbed as she answered "Yes, always."

Her outburst came after her evidence. As she left the court she passed a short distance from where Sams sat in the dock. She paused and pointed a finger at him as she shouted her threat.

As court ushers hurried her out of the room, Sams started back in his seat and looked away. He denies the kidnapping and murder of Miss Dart in July 1991 and demanding a

£140,000 ransom from West Yorkshire Police. He has also denied a charge of blackmailing British Rail for £200,000. He has admitted kidnapping and falsely imprisoning Stephanie Slater, a Birmingham estate agent, in January 1992 and demanding a £175,000 ransom.

Earlier, screens had been erected around the witness stand to allow a Leeds prostitute to give evidence anonymously. The woman, identified only by the name Mary, said that she and Miss Dart had been soliciting for prostitution in the Chapeltown district of Leeds on the night of July 9, 1991, when she disappeared.

The court was also told yesterday that her body was discovered in a field ten days later by Robert Skelton, a farmer from Easton, near Grantham, Lincolnshire. The case continues today.

## Publisher assaulted boy of 14

By JOHN YOUNG

A FORMER Christian publisher and prominent member of the Church of England was given a suspended jail sentence yesterday for sexually assaulting a boy aged 14.

Patrick Gilbert, who was general secretary of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge for 20 years, admitted two offences against the boy in 1986 and 1987. He was sentenced to nine months suspended for two years.

Gilbert had paid for a scholarship for his victim, who is now 21. He took the boy on numerous trips abroad and bought him expensive clothes and jewellery.

Judge Michael McMullan, described Gilbert, 59, as a wealthy and influential man who had breached the trust of the boy and his parents.

"With an offence of this kind only a custodial sentence could be justified," the judge said. He decided not to send Gilbert to prison because of his health and the very severe punishment he had already undergone through losing his reputation.

Wood Green Crown Court was told that Gilbert, of Hampstead, north London, had been admitted to hospital with serious heart problems last week, and that psychiatrists had assessed him as a suicide risk.

Ann Brownlow, for Gilbert, said that he had been well respected by people in the church. Among a number of references she produced was one from Dr Donald Coggan, a former Archbishop of Canterbury.

## Gold-digger awaits £3m verdict

A TREASURE hunter will become a millionaire if a treasure trove inquest decides that a Bronze Age necklace was lost accidentally by its original owner.

Graham Chaddock, 56, found the 3,000-year-old solid gold torc buried in a ploughed field while out with his metal detector near Warmminster, Wiltshire, three years ago. Ever since, he has waged a legal battle against the government to be declared the rightful owner of the artifact.

The inquest jury will have to

decide how the neckband came to be in the field. Giving evidence on the first day of the inquest at Salisbury, Wiltshire, Mr Chaddock said he found the torc, believed to be worth £3 million, after his companion, Reg Day, had unearthed a bronze axe head at the same spot.

Mr Chaddock, a businessman from Trowbridge, said he "heard a sharp signal on his metal detector and dug 12in to 15in into the harrowed earth. "I could see the glint of gold and the torc lying flat." Mr

Chaddock, who found the necklace on August 14, 1990, has spent £50,000 on a legal battle to overturn a treasure trove verdict which made the necklace Crown property.

If the jury decides that the necklace was buried for safe keeping, it will be declared treasure trove and become the government's property. It would go to the British Museum and Mr Chaddock would receive an ex-gratia payment of £75,000.

The inquest was adjourned until Friday.

## Injured prince is non-runner at Ascot

By LIN JENKINS



The prince in agony after his polo match

THE Prince of Wales has pulled out of his public engagements this week because of a persistent back injury that was aggravated while playing polo at the weekend. He was unable to attend a Garter ceremony yesterday and will not be at Royal Ascot.

The prince had been experiencing discomfort since Thursday and underwent physiotherapy. He fulfilled engagements on Thursday and Friday and was on horseback for two hours at the Trooping the Colour on Saturday. He was determined to play in the polo match at Windsor on Sunday, which was raising money for charity.

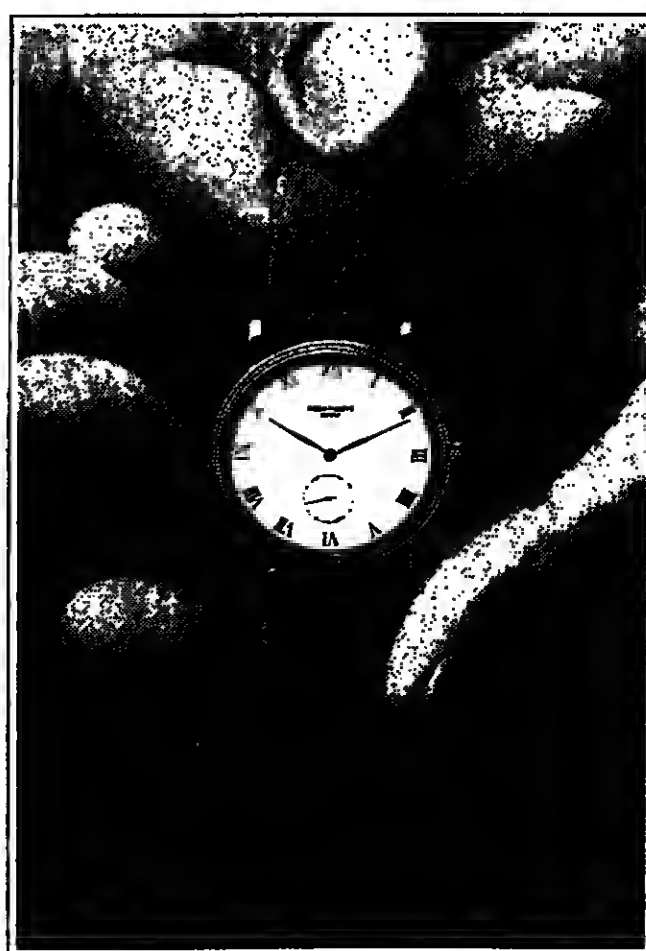
His press spokesman said: "It was a major sponsored day. The match he was playing in was for the Prague Heritage Fund, of which

he is joint patron with the Czech president, Vaclav Havel. The prince is going to take the opportunity of this Ascot week to rest up and do exercises without having to be on parade on official duties."

The prince, 44, also missed Ascot in 1991 because of what his hospital consultant described as a serious degenerative disc problem, with one disc at the base of his spine prolapsed. One option to solve the problem is surgery to fuse two discs together — an operation that does not rule out future sporting endeavours, as Ian Botham has proved.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother also missed the Garter ceremony in Windsor, but attended a reception for the knights beforehand. A spokesman said: "You have to give a certain amount of deference to her age."

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## Women reluctant to heed rape warning

BY LYN JENKINS

DETECTIVES have warned women not to go out alone late at night after three attacks by a hooded man within a month in the centre of a Somerset town.

The man raped one woman and indecently assaulted two others before being fought or frightened off. A psychological profile of him suggests that he will strike again, yet women appear reluctant to change their behaviour because of the threat of one man.

Three young women making an arrangement to attend an evening aerobic class said that they would not consider walking alone along the canal that links the locations of the three attacks. But they rejected any suggestion that they should change their lifestyles or restrict their freedom because of the actions of one man.

Janet King, 21, a secretary, said: "In cases like these it always appeals me that the police start telling us to be careful. It is outrageous to

■ Three sex attacks have led police to advise women in a small town not to go out alone, but they have met resistance

suggest that half the population has to modify their behaviour because of some members of the other half."

Her two friends nodded agreement, but on further discussion admitted sheepishly that they were concerned.

The attacks were all in the vicinity of the Bridgewater and Taunton canal. The waterway is not one of those sinister secluded places of some industrial towns, but is open and green. It provides welcome respite from the incessant estates of identical houses woven between the dull architecture of factories and workshops.

Mothers push prams along the towpath, greeting friends, and scores of dogs are taken daily to exercise. Walking along it after dark on a summer evening, it would be rare to find yourself alone.

The first victim, a 37-year-

old mother, was raped after being dragged 200 yards into undergrowth. She was attacked while walking alone at 12.30am along Hamp Ward Path near the canal. The second, aged 28, was attacked 50 yards away and the third, aged 24, near the town's docks. Both managed to get away before being raped.

Miss King and her friends take some comfort from the fact that the rapist was fought off by a woman called Jo, of a similar age to them, who was attacked at 11.15pm on Hamp Ward Path. "She had some martial arts training," said Cathy Pullen, 22, who works for a travel agency in the town. It made me think that perhaps I should do something like that, other than just aerobics. I could keep fit and improve my chances of escaping a nutter."

Her friend Helena Watkins

agreed. "It would certainly be more help than anything the police can do. They brought in police horses. Do they think the rapist is scared of horses or what?"

Avon and Somerset police have also drafted in extra officers and West Country Crimestoppers have offered the maximum reward of £5,000 for information leading to the arrest and charge of a suspect. The hope is that someone may have suspicions as to the identity of the man, who wore a hood and gloves for the attacks, and will come forward.

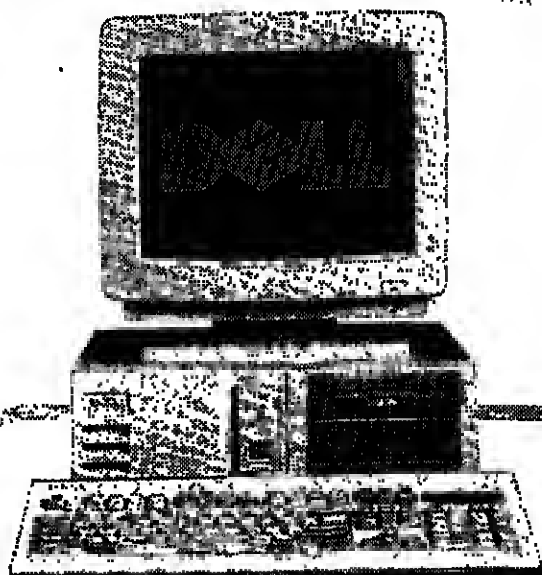
Det Insp Paul Moody said: "Women should have the right to walk alone in the town and it is imperative that we catch this man."

Those enjoying the cooling atmosphere of the canal in the heat agreed. "There is no way you can penetrate the mind of a man who does such things," Majorie Beeny, who is the same age as the first victim, said. "Nor of the wife, mother or girl friend who in such cases often protects the man while being suspicious."



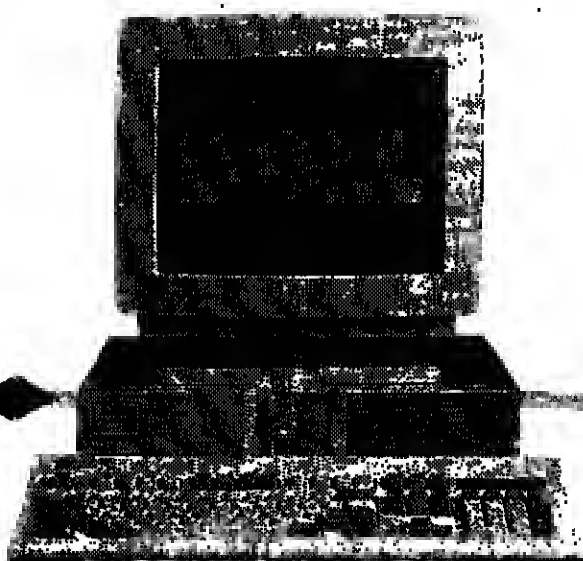
Night terrors: the towpath of the Bridgewater and Taunton canal, which links the attacks on three women

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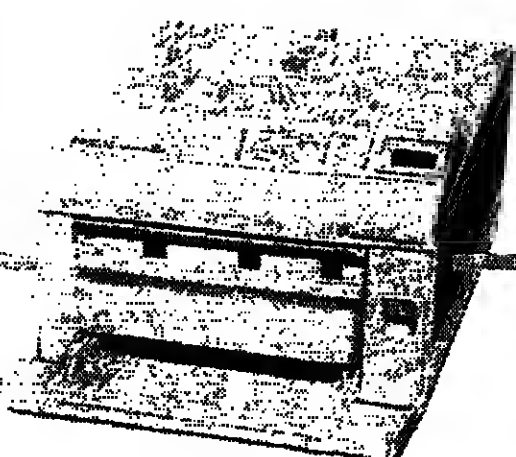
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## Vineyard faces new champagne challenge

BY A STAFF REPORTER

CHAMPAGNE producers reopened their fight yesterday with a small British vineyard that markets a sparkling soft drink as "Elderflower champagne".

In February Mr Justice Mervyn Davies ruled that the label on the Surrey-based Thorncroft Vineyard's drink, which is sold in champagne-style bottles with wired corks, was a "misrepresentation calculated to deceive".

The judge refused to grant the French an injunction, however, because he said that the risk of damage to the reputation of real champagne was nil or minimal.

Yesterday the champagne houses, led by Taittinger, which say that Thorncroft, of Leatherhead, has tried to cash in on their goodwill and reputation, appealed against the judge's ruling. They want the Master of the Rolls, Sir Thomas Bingham, and Lords Justices Mann and Peter Gibson to say that there is a risk of damage, and impose an injunction.

The French are accusing the vineyard of passing off its product as being the same as, or having some connection with, genuine champagne. They say that the word champagne is restricted by law to wines made in the Champagne district.

Thorncroft, which began marketing Elderflower champagne in 1989, is also appealing against the judge's ruling that there was a misrepresentation. Dr Guy Woodall, head of the company, says that his product is based on his grandmother's recipe and that the drink dates back to the Middle Ages.

The hearing, which will concentrate on complex points of law, is expected to last two days.

## Samurai swordsman jailed for five years

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A MAN who severed a policeman's hand with a samurai sword was jailed for five years at the Old Bailey yesterday. Peter Gilchrist, 34, attacked Detective Sergeant Bob Window after he went with other officers to Gilchrist's home to investigate a complaint made by his former wife.

As Det Sgt Window stood on the doorstep, he heard a man scream a war cry and saw a figure holding something in both hands, raised above his head, coming at him from the shadows. Mr Window put up his arm in self-defence and was struck by the sword.

Gilchrist had immediately felt remorse over what he had done and picked up the hand, put it in a bag and ran through the streets to give it back to the officer, the court was told. The hand was packed between frozen packs of vegetables and Det Sgt Window was flown by helicopter to hospital where the hand was successfully sewn back on.

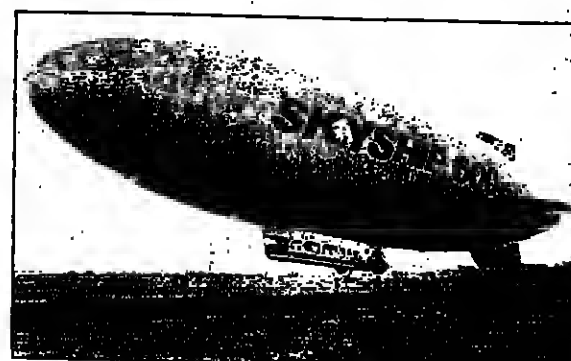
Judge Kenneth Richardson rejected a plea to send Gilchrist, a warehouseman, to a secure psychiatric unit for two years, as "it would, quite rightly, cause public outrage".

The judge told Gilchrist: "You severed his hand with one slash of that wicked samurai sword. I have no doubt that, if he had not put up his hand, you would have split his skull and faced a charge of murder."

Gilchrist, of Tottenham, north London, was cleared last month of attempting to murder Det Sgt Window but convicted of causing him grievous bodily harm.

The detective still has to attend hospital every day and will have another operation next month to give him better movement.

## Airships launched on secret mission



Balloon goes up: the defence ministry confirmed yesterday that it had placed an order for a 194ft airship, above, originally designed by a British firm (Nick Nutall writes).

The Skyship 600 bristles with the latest listening and camera monitoring technology. A spokesman for the defence ministry said yesterday: "We are looking at a whole number of different applications." He said that the attraction of airships were their long endurance, carrying ability and that they were "more environmentally friendly". Unlike older airships, which were prone to fires, modern ones use helium

which is non-combustible. Airships are also relatively silent compared with helicopters. The ministry confirmed that they were ideal platforms from which to "drop things".

One suggestion has been to deploy the airship in Northern Ireland to spy on terrorist activity along the Irish border. The ministry dismissed this as speculation.

The Skyship 600 was designed by Airship Industries, of Cardington, Bedfordshire, which is now defunct. Some of its assets were bought by Westinghouse Surveillance, an American firm that now builds the airship.



## Police informer awaits IRA bullet on return to Ulster

By A Staff Reporter

DECLAN 'Beano' Casey, a self-proclaimed IRA double agent, lay low in Northern Ireland yesterday after returning to Strabane, Co. Tyrone, in a blaze of publicity, apparently to await an assassin's bullet.

Nobody in the border town saw anything of the man who claimed, through the pages of a national newspaper, that he worked for the security forces while a quarter-master for the IRA and that he was involved in more than a dozen murders. Republicans in the town were amazed at reports that he was back. "Nobody has seen him around," said one who knew that Casey's wife and children still lived in the area.

Casey, 38, returned to his family in Strabane at the weekend because of home sickness after giving up a new life and identity in Nottingham arranged by the Royal Ulster Constabulary, according to reports. He was said to have been given £40,000 and a £75,000 house.

He now awaits the killers he is certain the IRA will send. "I know I will be executed but if I can't be with my family there is nothing to live for," he told the *Daily Mirror*. A Republican source said: "I doubt very much if he has won a reprieve."

The police said little about the affair. They read the five-page story on Casey's exploits and wondered what would be reported in the days to come.

■ Beano Casey is back in town and running scared. A Republican source says: "I doubt very much if he has won a reprieve"

Meetings among senior officers to decide how to handle what could become a big scandal went on all day. "We are studying what this man has to say," a spokesman said.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland secretary, issued a statement saying he knew that the police were studying the newspaper report. He emphasised that it had always been the government's job in Northern Ireland to uphold law and order.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary is understood to have placed a discreet guard around Casey and his family, although few expect the IRA to rush in. The Rev William McCrea, the mid-Ulster Democratic Unionist Party MP, said that he was outraged at the reports and demanded that Sir Patrick explain the situation.

"Declan Casey seems to have admitted to some press that he has been involved in over a dozen killings. Many of those people are innocent people," Mr McCrea said. "It seems to be rather sick that the authorities allow him to go out and be involved in the murders of innocent people in my constituency but that is totally unacceptable."

A number of MPs plan to

table questions to the Northern Ireland Secretary about the affair. Sinn Féin, the IRA's political wing, also demanded a public statement. "He must state whether information supplied by Casey was ignored by the RUC and people allowed to die to protect this informer," it said. Sinn Féin added that, as Casey had been paid by police and apparently by a newspaper, his claims must be treated with suspicion.

Casey was allegedly the Royal Ulster Constabulary's top double agent for five years, giving them information which saved scores of lives while continuing with his terror campaign. He is said to have fled to England last year after a series of security forces swoops wrecked the IRA group in Strabane.

## Royal Ascot feasts on a week of sumptuous irrelevance



Bon appétit: Neil Goulden, chief executive of Lestibey & Christopher's, caterer to Royal Ascot, awaits the invasion of the balcony restaurant that will serve 1,250 meals a day (Julian Muscat writes). We may at the moment be a nation of sporting duffers with a £50 billion deficit, but come Royal Ascot and many of us are gripped by a collective amnesia. From the Square Mile, Westminster and the most desirable parts of rural England, the Bentleys and Range Rovers will converge for a week of sumptuous irrelevance.

About 15,000 bottles of champagne and 22,000 bottles of wine will be downed, and 4,000 lobsters, 1,000 salmon and enough strawberries to bury Wimbledon will be scoffed over the next four days. A successful Royal Ascot evidently depends on the right proportion of sun and rain over the vineyards of France, plentiful fish in the world's oceans, and fertility of Britain's soil, in which racing too has its roots. According to Mr Goulden, we are a refined lot nowadays. "The beef has to be served so rare it must almost be able to get back up and walk away from you."

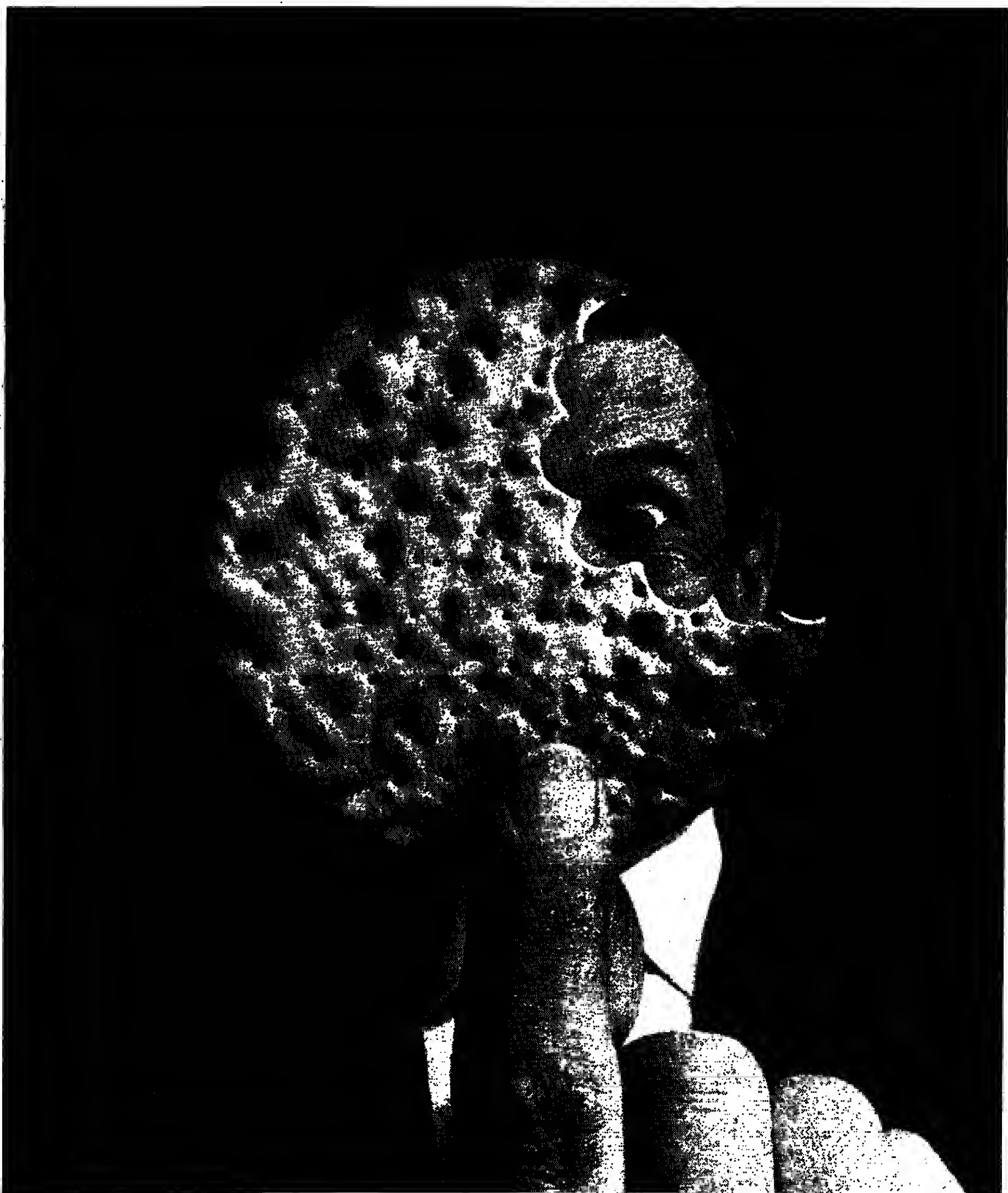
Regulars such as Roger Moore and Joan Collins (if she is allowed in, that is) will doubtless be lunching in one of the 285 private boxes. Settle

down, if you will, to a four-course feast of quails' eggs, a whole lobster, fillet of beef and strawberries and cream, all washed down with the finest Krug. The price will be £120 a head.

"Business has held steady," Mr Goulden said. "The box holders expect greater value for money but the price per head has not come down in this recession. But it's not quite like the late 1980s, when we just rolled up here and started counting the money." Many of the box luncheons will stem from corporate entertainment accounts and very few boxes will go unused this year.

Ascot preview, page 37

## On the new InterCity Shuttle, you can go nuts, bananas or crackers.



## Doctor apologises for cancer error

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE doctor whose mistaken diagnosis of bone cancer led to a boy being given unnecessary chemotherapy apologised issued a public apology to the patient and his family yesterday.

Dr Carol Starkie, the pathologist in the bone tumour unit at the Royal Orthopaedic hospital, Birmingham, disclosed that she had been suffering from multiple sclerosis and is to seek early retirement on medical grounds.

As a result of her mistake, about 100 patients treated at the hospital are to have their cancer tests rechecked for further errors. Some have already had treatment cancelled while they wait for the new results.

The boy, who has not been named, lost all his hair as a result of three days of chemotherapy with toxic drugs before a routine second check showed that his condition was not malignant. He is being treated at a different hospital to help him to overcome the effects of the chemotherapy.

At a press conference yesterday, Dr Bernard Crump, director of public health for South Birmingham Health Authority, said that diagnosing bone cancers was complex and difficult. "Because the type of malignancy in question can be very serious and very rapid in its development, chemotherapy was started immediately," he said. It was stopped as soon as the mistake was discovered.

Dr Gillian Todd, chief executive of South Birmingham health authority's acute services unit, said: "This is an

extremely difficult event and extremely harrowing for the parents of the boy. It may be a relief for them to know that their child does not have cancer but it would have been very traumatic to have discovered that he had undergone treatment for the disease."

She said that Dr Starkie, who is in her 50s, was one of only a handful of experts qualified to carry out bone cancer diagnoses. She confirmed that Dr Starkie had sought early retirement only as a result of the error being revealed. There was no evidence that the boy would suffer long-term effects of the chemotherapy, but he was being closely monitored, she said.

A four-member panel headed by Dr Enid Vincent, chairman of Wandsworth Health Authority, will re-open the files of patients diagnosed by Dr Starkie and temporarily halt the treatment of patients receiving chemotherapy at the hospital. The enquiry is expected to last several weeks.



Crump: "Diagnosing of bone cancers is difficult"

## Aids in homosexuals expected to decline

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

AIDS cases among homosexuals in England and Wales are expected to level off and decline in the next two years, but a slow rise among heterosexuals will continue.

By 1997, according to a government report published yesterday, there will be 770 new cases of heterosexually transmitted Aids every year. This compares with 1,350 among homosexuals and 165 among injecting drug users.

The increase among heterosexuals will be steady rather than sudden, according to Nicholas Day, Professor of public health at Cambridge University and chairman of the working group responsible for the new estimates. At present the growth of heterosexual Aids was slow because the pool of infection was small, he said. "As that pool increases, the risk of infection will increase."

At the end of 1992, there were estimated to have been 2,237 cases of HIV infection among heterosexuals in Eng-

land and Wales, almost three-quarters of which was caught abroad. Of the rest, 291 were in partners of those at high-risk, including injecting drug users, and only 117 in people with no other known risk.

Baroness Cumberlege, a junior health minister, said: "The figures vindicate the policies the government has put in place to fight the disease. The UK now has one of the lowest estimated HIV prevalence rates in western Europe. There are six times as many cases in France, four times as many in Spain and three times as many in Italy."

By the end of 1991 there were 23,990 people infected with HIV in England and Wales. Among homosexuals and drug users, the annual incidence of infection with HIV has peaked and is falling.

Professor Day said that, providing there were no changes in behaviour, Aids among homosexual men would fall in the second half of the decade.

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سلاسل الراجل



## Travel firms promise better advice to tourists

BY IAN MURRAY

A NEW method of ensuring that tourists are warned of dangers at their holiday destinations is to be thrashed out between the travel industry and the Foreign Office after recent attacks on Britons in Egypt and the shooting of a pensioner in Washington DC.

"We are going to talk to the Foreign Office about ways in which information can be given more clearly to potential customers before they buy their tickets," Martin Brackenbury, chairman of the Tour Operator Study Group, said yesterday. "Travel agents often haven't given as comprehensive advice as they can. It would be helpful if they provided customers with the most up-to-date advice before they make a firm booking."

The Foreign Office has issued travel advice concerning difficulties for travellers in 70 countries, although it gives a clear warning not to travel to only seven: Afghanistan, Bosnia, Iraq, Liberia, Libya and Zaire. All the information is updated regularly and sent out on CeeFax, so that travel agents can look it up as soon

■ Travel agents will consult the Foreign Office about pointing out potential dangers to people booking holidays

as a customer makes an enquiry.

Mr Brackenbury said that the advice could be printed in future. "One of the big problems we face is that the public just ignore information if it is not personalised."

Travel agents were accused of failing to give customers adequate advice on Granada Television's *World In Action* last night. Researchers posing as tourists enquired about holidays to Egypt at 30 different agencies. None passed on

a Foreign Office warning issued last October that "complete security cannot be guaranteed" there.

"Quite frankly we were flabbergasted that not one of them bothered to mention it," Rob Brown, the programme's spokesman, said. "If you hadn't read in the papers that tourists in Egypt were a target of extremists you would never have found out from the agents we visited."

The programme issued its own list of the ten most

dangerous holiday destinations, which are shown on the map below.

Mike Grindrod, president of the Association of British Travel Agents (Abta), said members should give advice to anyone making a booking and be would personally see to it that any company failing to do so was disciplined.

"I would be disappointed if the majority of companies were not doing this already," he said. "The Foreign Office advice is good, but there is always the suspicion that they are driven by other considerations such as the need not to offend another country. That is why they are perhaps not sufficiently cautious about some destinations."

A Foreign Office spokesman said that although individual cases received considerable publicity, tourism was generally safer than staying at home. "Out of 31.5 million Britons who went abroad last year, only 1,261 died abroad. Most died from natural causes or accidents. There were only about ten cases of murder. In the end, tourists have to take responsibility for their own actions."



Act of detente: Richard Nelson, left, and Alexander Gelman corresponded via a translator to write the play

## East and West unite in dramatic coup

BY ALISON ROBERTS, ARTS REPORTER

A COLLABORATION between Boris Yeltsin's speech-writer and one of America's foremost playwrights is expected to be one of the dramatic highlights of the Royal Shakespeare Company's year.

Rehearsals of *Misha's Party*, by Alexander Gelman and Richard Nelson, have begun in London for the

world premiere at the Barbican next month. It is one of the most high-profile cultural collaborations between East and West since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The action takes place during a birthday party in a hotel opposite the White House in Moscow on the night of

the putsch in August 1991. While "little Misha", the birthday host, deals with his family troubles, "big Misha" — Mikhail Gorbachev — is dealing with the rupture of a nation. Gelman, a leading political figure, was in the Russian parliament building during the putsch.

Arts, page 33

## Nuclear weapons factory a 'serious threat to safety'

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S nuclear weapons factory at Aldermaston in Berkshire is a serious safety hazard threatening the health of staff and people living nearby, according to a BBC *Panorama* programme shown last night.

Many of its oldest buildings are said to be riddled with contaminated equipment, materials and plant which urgently need to be dismantled and made safe.

But a plan drawn up in the 1980s to do that has fallen foul of cash and manning cutbacks. It is claimed. The cuts not only threaten staff and villagers but also the production of a new generation of Trident warheads.

The warheads are being built in ageing premises as a new facility, which was scheduled for completion in 1988 under the rebuilding programme, remains unfinished.

Peter Jones, former head of the plant and a director from 1962 to 1987, claims the existing buildings of the Atomic Weapons Establishment would be incapable of containing a serious radiation leak.

Mr Jones, a consultant to the defence ministry, claims the old, shut down buildings, are "a highly undesirable legacy for the nuclear industry to leave. It's something with many thousands of years' potential risk in it." He said some of the buildings, several of which are more than 30 years old, have rubber seals that are in danger of degrading, leading to an escape of radioactive plutonium.

Mr Jones said yesterday: "While I was there we drew up long-term plans on how we could equip ourselves to disassemble the contents of old buildings but this has got stretched out over time." The programme was aimed at developing techniques to strip down the sites and seal the

contents in special containers. "As far as I am aware, those programmes have been continually put back for financial and manpower reasons," he told *The Times*.

Staff also claim that safety inspections have become a joke. Confidential documents show that a serious leak last December, in which four workers were exposed to radiation, was caused by a corroded plutonium canister which had not been inspected for two years. In one building, known as A50, staff are so concerned about contamination they refuse to be posted there. Abandoned glove boxes, highly contaminated with radioactive plutonium, are shored up with scaffolding to stop them collapsing, it is claimed.

The safety conditions surrounding the production of the new Trident has dismayed the Commons defence committee, which is calling for A90, the code name of the new building, to be completed without any more delay. The committee's report, to be published later this month, warns that any more delays could affect production of the warhead.

The defence ministry yesterday denied that safety standards were lax. "The facilities continue to be maintained to rigorous standards. There are double and triple checks going on all the time," a spokeswoman said.

News of Aldermaston's condition comes as a leading academic claims the future of Britain's independent nuclear weapons' capability is now in doubt after the government handed over the site to private contractors on April 1. Dr Graham Spinardi, of the University of Edinburgh, argues that Britain's ability to design its own warheads had rested on scientists making innovative leaps in the absence of significant funding.

## Sex harassment claims rise 50%

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

COMPLAINTS of sexual harassment have risen by almost 50 per cent to a record level, an increase largely caused by the recession, the Equal Opportunities Commission says.

A sharp rise in the number of employees seeking redress for sexual discrimination at work is a further indication of growing dissatisfaction at the tougher attitudes taken by employers because of the economic downturn.

The commission says in its annual report today that it handled more than 13,000 enquiries and complaints last year, mainly about terms and conditions of work. Complaints about sexual harassment rose to 900 from 573 in 1991.

In an interview today in the magazine *Personnel Today*, which gives details of the report in advance of its official publication later today, Kamlesh Bahl, the commission's new chairman, defends its role in

high-profile sex discrimination cases such as that brought by Alison Halford, formerly an assistant chief constable of Merseyside police, against the force. "It does not matter whether you win or lose because by bringing a significant case you create a positive ripple effect," she says.

Judith Byrne-White, the assistant chief executive, said complaints of sex discrimination had increased because "the recession has resulted in a squeezing of the labour force and more people being made redundant". An increasing awareness of individual rights was also seen as a factor.

Some employers have questioned the need to maintain equal opportunity policies at work at a time of high unemployment. But Ms Bahl says: "Mercifully we are out of the recession so anyone who wants to argue the toss about that will find it an increasingly dated argument."

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Health authority pulls out of tribunal case against hospital whistle-blower

## Rebel nurse wins £11,000 for sacking

By RONALD FAUX and JEREMY LAURANCE

GRAHAM Pink, the staff nurse who became Britain's best-known whistle-blower after complaining publicly about the alleged poor quality of care in the hospital where he worked, won £11,000 yesterday from the health authority that sacked him.

Mr Pink, who lost his job because of his campaign over staffing and conditions at Stepping Hill Hospital in Stockport, Greater Manchester, brought a claim of unfair dismissal against Stockport health authority. Yesterday the authority withdrew from the industrial tribunal and agreed to pay Mr Pink £11,188, the maximum that he could have expected if the tribunal had found in his favour.

The actions of Mr Pink, 62, led the government to devise new guidelines for staff on speaking out about poor standards in the national health service, which were published last week. He won the backing of his nursing colleagues and earlier this year was elected to the profession's regulatory body, polling more than five times as many votes as his nearest rival.

The health authority blamed its withdrawal on the high cost of the action. Tony Russell, its chairman,

said that the case had already cost £90,000, with the prospect that a further £250,000 might have to be diverted from resources earmarked for patient care. "This we are not prepared to do. At the end of the day, what we are defending are the golden rules of nursing. They are that all patients have the absolute right to expect confidentiality at all times and staff have the right and duty to raise matters of concern within the National Health Service, provided they do not breach that confidentiality," he said.

Mr Pink had admitted on more than one occasion that he deliberately breached that principle and his contract of employment. Disciplinary action started in 1990 and he was dismissed after refusing a new post in community nursing.

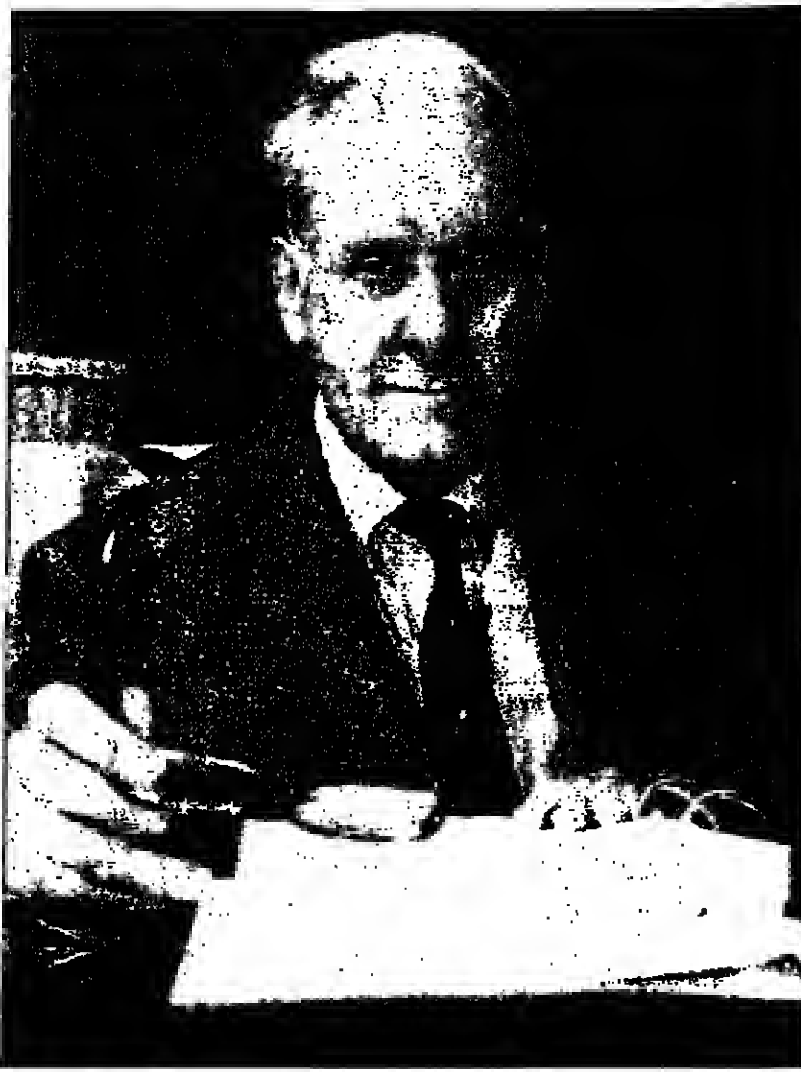
Mr Russell said that the tribunal hearing could have lasted up to three months; only one witness was heard in the first ten days. "We found ourselves defending procedures and technicalities instead of principles," he said. "With 20-20 hindsight, we were technically wrong in not issuing Mr Pink with a formal warning when he began his campaign in the media, but as a public authority dealing with an

individual we were at pains to address all his concerns before taking disciplinary action."

Mr Pink was not available for comment yesterday but Robin Lewis, his solicitor, claimed a victory that he said would bring joy to the thousands of health-care professionals who had recently elected him to the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting.

Mr Lewis said: "His victory represents a triumph for those whose priority is care for patients over those whose first care is for balance sheets. If Stockport health authority had admitted two years ago what they have admitted today, a huge amount of resources could have been saved. As it is, today's concession means not only that resources have been wasted on legal costs, but that the public has heard only half the story."

The new guidelines for national health service staff on dealings with the media have been described by Mr Pink as "a gagger's charter". Under the new guidance, health service managers retain the right to discipline staff who tell the press about poor standards of patient care.



Claiming victory: Graham Pink criticised staffing and conditions

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## THE TIMES WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

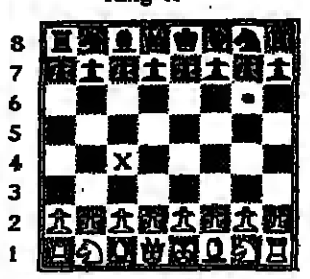
By RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENTWhite: Grigory Kaidanov  
Black: Alex Shcherer  
New York 1993

I HAVE been deluged with enquiries from readers to repeat my explanation of the algebraic system of notation, comprehension of which will be essential for following the Kasparov-Short World Championship games in *The Times*.

Chess, in contrast to almost all other sports, has a perfect medium in algebraic notation for reliving the drama and detail of any game. Readers comparatively new to the game, or who may have learned only the older "English Descriptive" notation, will find what follows helpful. It is assumed that the reader knows how to play chess.

Each piece is represented by a letter, as follows:

Knight N  
Bishop B  
Rook R  
Queen Q  
King K



The squares on the board are described by co-ordinates comprising a letter and number (see diagram). For instance, the square marked with a cross is c4, that marked with a circle is g6. This follows the principle of references on an A-Z street guide or road map.

When a piece is moved, the initial letter of that piece is indicated at the start of the move; when it is a pawn, however, mention is made only of the square on which it arrives when the move is completed. Examples of the difference are White's first move in the game which follows, 1 d4 (white pawn goes to d4), and Black's first move 1... Nf6 (black knight goes to f6).

Captures are represented with an x. For example, in the game below, the first pawn capture by White (on move 9) is the pawn on the e-file capturing the black pawn on d5 (9exd5). The first piece captured by White is on move 16: the bishop on h6 takes the black bishop on g7 (16 Bxg7).

Casting is represented by 0-0 or 0-0-0. In the first case, casting kingside, the king moves from e1 to g1 (or e8 to g8, if Black is casting), with the rook moving at the same time from h1 to f1 (or h8 to f8). In casting queenside, the king moves from e1 to c1 (or e8 to c8) and the rook from a1 to d1 (or a8 to d8). In the following game, Black castles kingside on move 5 and White castles queenside on move 13.

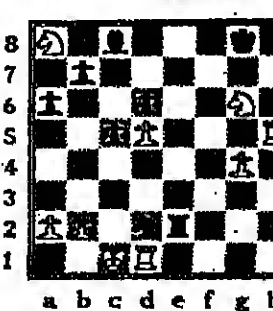
The following game is reported twice, first with algebraic notation and then with the older descriptive notation.

King's Indian Defence

1 d4 Nf6  
2 c4 g6  
3 Nc3 Bg7  
4 d5 Bxg7  
5 Bg5 c6  
6 Bc2 Qa5  
7 Qc2 Qb6  
8 Qc3 Qb6  
9 Qc3 Qb6  
10 Nf3 Bf5  
11 Nh4 Bg4  
12 B3 Bc8  
13 0-0-0 Nc6  
14 Bb6 Bb7  
15 g4 Bc7  
16 Ng2 Nf5  
17 h4 h5  
18 h5 h4  
19 h4 h5  
20 N5 Nc4  
21 h5g6 Nf5  
22 g4h7+ Nf5  
23 N4 Nf5  
24 Ng5+ Kg7  
25 Rf5+ Rf7  
26 N4 Nc2  
27 Nb6 Rf2  
28 Nxa8 Black resigns

1 P-Q4 N-K3  
2 P-QB4 P-K3  
3 N-QB3 P-N2  
4 P-K4 P-Q3  
5 B-K2 Castles K-side  
6 B-N5 P-B4  
7 P-Q5 P-K3  
8 Q-Q2 P-P3  
9 K-P3 Q-N3  
10 N-B3 B-N5  
11 N-KR4 B-N5  
12 P-B3 B-N5  
13 Castles Q-side Q-N2  
14 B-R6 P-R3  
15 P-KN4 N-K1  
16 B-B N-B  
17 N-N2 P-B4  
18 P-R4 P-P3  
19 P-P N-K4  
20 P-R5 R-B7  
21 P-P N-BP  
22 P-P+ K-R1  
23 N-KR4 N-KR4  
24 N-N6+ K-P  
25 R-N+ K-N1  
26 N-QR4 N-Q  
27 N-Q R-B  
28 N-R Black resigns

Diagram of final position



a b c d e f g h

Chess news

KENT proved the value of well-organised coaching for children at the weekend when their three teams dominated the first under-14 county match in London.

With two junior internationalists, Catherine Holmes and Rosalind Kieran, the first team romped away with the tide, scoring 14½ out of a possible 16 points.

Kent's success is encouraging other counties to copy its methods of coaching and team building, starting with younger players and going on into senior levels.

Results: Under-14 girls county championship: Kent 1, 14½; Kent 2, 12½; Suffolk, Surrey 1 and Wiltshire B, 10½; Kent 3, 10.

Winning Move, page 40

## Type phone gives deaf key to calls

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

A TELEPHONE that allows deaf and hearing-impaired people to make calls in public places went on trial yesterday.

The payphone, which is operated by a BT Phonocard, has a sliding keyboard and screen on which messages can be typed and received. Stephen Illife, a magazine editor who is deaf, made the first call on the new machine, from King's Cross station, to his wife, Emma, at their home in Southgate, north London.

Mr Illife, 31, said: "Deaf people already have access to the telephone at home and in the office. By extending that access to public payphones, it will be further enfranchising deaf people as equal citizens. It will help extend a powerful revolution in telecommunications for deaf people into public places."

The new telephones, which can also be used by people without hearing difficulties, are also to be tested at Heathrow's terminal 3, a BT

shop in Glasgow and at deaf centres in Holborn, Birmingham and Doncaster. Karl Holweger, of the Royal National Institute for the Deaf, said that if tests were successful, the institute would push for a national network.

About 7.5 million people in the United Kingdom suffer some form of hearing loss, with an estimated 400,000 who could benefit from the text payphone.

The phone is used by first placing the receiver in a holder on the side of the device, inserting a Phonocard and dialling. If the person receiving the call is in a drawer slides out for typing the text. Calls can be received on text phones or by using a special operator to type responses.

Text payphones have been installed in the United States since 1988. BT engineers have redesigned them for use in Britain, with vandal-proof features.



Talking type: the payphone's screen and keyboard

مركز الأمل



## Firefighters' dispute

# Index-linked pay offered in effort to avert strike

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

LOCAL authority employers will try to avert the first national firefighters strike for 15 years by promising to restore an index-linked pay formula for Britain's 48,000 fire crews.

Government ministers, who have not yet decided how to follow this year's 1.5 per cent public sector pay limit, are likely to be angered by the move, in part because, in effect, it disregards the possibility of any further government pay restraint next year. It may also be seen as giving in to a strike threat.

Leaders of the Fire Brigades Union have said that they will ballot their members on a national strike to retain the pay formula that ended Britain's first fire strike, in 1978. The formula sets firefighters' pay by relating it to increases in the top 25 per cent of male manual workers' earnings. Firefighters believe that the government's insistence that there will be no catching up on pay after this year's wage limit breaks that agreement.

But at a meeting with the union in two weeks' time, local authority employers are expected to give a commitment to restore the pay formula in full for the firefighters' settlement in November next year. The employers' leaders believe that firefighters are ready to accept a settlement in line with this year's wage limit, particularly if the pay formula this year produces a figure of about 2 per cent. They calculate that a statement to this effect may be enough to persuade the union to lift its strike threat and prevent a ballot.

If the union goes ahead and ballot, though, the employers will go over the union leaders' heads and seek directly to persuade firefighters around the country to vote against a strike. These will include a series of newspaper advertisements, to emphasise their commitment to restoring the pay formula.

The employers' statement will emphasise that the commitment to bring back the formula is in line with promises made by the prime minister to other groups, such as the armed forces. In a letter to Sir Peter Cazalet, chairman of the armed forces pay review body, Mr Major says that "the current period of pay restraint will last for one year only" and asks the review body to resume its full work for a 1994 pay deal.

Even so, the move by the Labour-controlled employers may anger ministers, who are yet to decide on public sector pay after the current limit runs out in November. The Treasury is divided over openly imposing another wage ceiling, with some officials believing that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, is more likely to favour a further year of pay restraint than his predecessor, Norman Lamont.

Although the employers believe there is little the Home Office can do in practice if the firefighters' pay formula is restored in full, they also recognise that Michael Howard, the home secretary, is unlikely to draw away from a clash with the union in the face of its strike threat. Employers' leaders believe, though, that at a politically sensitive time, the government might lose even more public support in taking on the firefighters.



Curtain call: Shireen Akbar, of the Victoria and Albert Museum, examining large textile panels made by Asian women in Britain. Fifteen richly decorated panels, inspired by the museum's Nehru Gallery of Indian Art and modelled on the traditional Mughal tent, are on display until July 4. Ms Akbar set up the project to encourage women to explore their Indian heritage and to try to prevent feelings of isolation.

## Jailed gangs questioned over source of guns

By Stewart Tindler, Crime Correspondent

MORE than 400 armed robbers, including leading gang members, have been interviewed in prison as part of research by the Home Office police and academics into rising gun crime and the source of the underworld's supply of weapons.

Detectives believe there has been a steady supply of weapons smuggled into Britain after the Falklands and Gulf wars. They also suspect some gun collectors of not declaring all their weapons and that these are being stolen but not reported missing.

The results of the research will be available by this autumn and will be closely studied by chief constables.

Last year an academic paper by a Scotland Yard detective into London armed robberies underlined the gaps in research on guns and suggested that although the size of the pool of criminal weapons was unknown, there were many guns in circulation.

A team of researchers at Leicester University is completing the last interviews of more than 330 armed robbers who have been questioned about their work. Dr Martin Gill said that those interviewed included members of robbery gangs going back to the 1960s.

Work has also just been completed by Dr Shona Morrison at Oxford University's Centre for Criminology, interviewing a further 90 robbers for a Home Office study. Her work will examine the attitude of "criminals towards guns and committing robberies, and also involves a study of police files on cases."

A third study being carried out within the Home Office is looking at how guns are stolen. Working with police forces, the researchers are checking files and charges involving guns to see where the weapons were taken from.

Police believe that the spread of armed robbery is linked to drug dealing. A number of armed robbery teams have moved into drug trafficking in recent years, bringing with them the violence of their former trade. There is concern that police are uncovering weapons during searches of homes of suspects for offences unrelated to guns. They cite the current Bumblebee operation across London against burglars, which uncovered a number of guns.

Officers at the Yard and other forces have studied the paper on London robberies by Det Chief Insp Adrian Maybanks. He said he was uncertain how many weapons were leaking from the legal market and called for more arms amnesties to persuade the public to hand over souvenir guns.

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## Pacific raft enters port for repairs

Tim Severin and the crew of the *Xiu Fu*, a replica 3rd century bamboo raft, have limped into port on Miyako Island, southwest of Japan, with a broken mast.

Japanese officials said yesterday that the sailors, who left Hong Kong in mid-May on a 6,500-mile trip to the Americas, feared that the damage might have left them stranded. Mr Severin and his crew are seeking to prove a link between pre-Columbian America and the ancient civilisations of Asia.

## Murder case

Arron Bamborough, 23, of Chessington, Surrey, was remanded in custody by magistrates in southwest London, charged with the murder of Martin Jackson, a trainee accountant, in Putney.

## Attack remand

Joseph Peter Roche, 23, of Chipperfield, Hertfordshire, was remanded in custody, charged with the attempted murder of Linda Hardy, 43, who was attacked while walking her dogs.

## Youths in court

Four teenagers aged between 16 and 19 were remanded in custody by magistrates in Cardiff, charged with murdering Les Reed, 45, who was kicked to death on Friday.

## Worthy book

A rare medieval psalter found in a £20 job lot of books at an auction in Essex is expected to fetch £5,000 at Sotheby's next week.

## School arson

A man aged 41 was being questioned after a fire caused smoke damage to a science laboratory at Marlborough College, Wiltshire.

## Vaughan post

The entertainer Frankie Vaughan has been appointed a deputy lieutenant of Buckinghamshire.

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# Clarke steps into firing line of Tory civil war over tax

BY NICHOLAS WOOD  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Cavaliers and the Roundheads fighting the civil war in the Tory party have limped home from Europe and pitched their tents on a new domestic battlefield. With Maastricht passions temporarily exhausted, tax and spending are now stirring the blood of right and left.

Enter Kenneth Clarke. His Mansion House speech tonight should go a long way towards determining the course of the conflict.

The right-wing Cavaliers, still dreaming of a restoration of their fallen leader, are restive. If the new Chancellor sides with the Roundheads and signals a preference for more tax increases in the November Budget, battle will certainly be joined.

The overwhelming view on the right of the party is that the £50 billion public sector deficit has to be tackled through severe cuts in the £253.6 billion control total for next year rather than tax increases over and above the extension of VAT to domestic fuel next year, the immediate freezing of personal tax allowances and the impending rise in National Insurance contributions.

Mr Clarke's speech to an audience of bankers, industrialists and economic pundits is his first as Chancellor and has been billed to range well beyond the intricacies of monetary policy that traditionally inform the Mansion House address. He can be relied upon to highlight the menace to economic recovery posed by a deficit of almost IMF propor-

## The Chancellor's Mansion House speech tonight will help to decide the battle between left and right

tions. But diagnosis will not be enough. The Tory right want a drastic cure.

Second only to concern about the government's indebtedness is the pace of the recovery. The Euro-sceptic right was deeply opposed to British membership of the exchange-rate mechanism and believes that ill-fated venture prolonged the recession by keeping interest rates too high for too long. Even after "White Wednesday", the feeling persists that the recovery is being impeded by unwarranted Treasury caution over cutting base rates.

If Mr Clarke really wants to boost his lowly credit-rating with the right, he will make a quest for economic growth the watchword of his speech.

Last week's Commons debate on economic policy gave Tory right-wingers the chance to air their views. The attitude of the majority was summed up by John Townend, a leading figure in the 92 Group of right-wing MPs and chairman of the backbench finance committee.

"I must tell the new Chancellor bluntly that he should turn his attention to what I admit is the difficult task of reducing public expenditure and forget any idea of increasing income tax, especially the standard rate. If we go into the next election with direct tax rates higher than those at the previous election ... we shall be

finished." Tory MPs would not stand for a massive increase in taxation in place of spending cuts, he added.

Privately, many of Mr Townend's colleagues among the 92 Group and the Thatcherite No Turning Back Group endorse this view. David Willets, a member of the No Turning Back Group, called for better targeting of benefits (code for cuts) and said growth was the best cure for the deficit.

But some long-standing monetarists such as Sir Peter Hordern, a member of the 92 Group and the 1922 executive, fear that the right is in danger of throwing the baby of sound money out with the bathwater of rapid growth. In the debate, he advocated spending cuts and an increase in corporation tax, while warning of the inflationary dangers of cutting interest rates "to the point of invisibility".

The other side of the coin, as some of the centre-left bitterly point out, is that big public spending cuts would also be unpopular and vulnerable to a Commons ambush by the right wing.

Nor is the right wholly united. John Biffen may have become semi-detached from Baroness Thatcher in the mid-1980s, but his right-wing credentials are strong. In the same debate, the former Treasury chief secretary, said that the size of the deficit was so great that it could not be bridged by spending cuts alone. The basic rate of income tax would have to go up by 2p at least.

Lord Howe's detachment from the former prime minister is now total, but in the early 1980s he was the dogged and ultimately successful instrument of her will. He too reminded his colleagues yesterday that there was nothing sacrosanct about the 25p in the pound basic rate of tax.

Cabinet debate, page 2  
Woodrow Wyatt, page 16  
Diary, page 16



Women at work: Teresa Gorman, left, and Glenda Jackson try out the new Women into Politics Actionline, which opens for business on Thursday. The two MPs are part of a campaign to encourage women to be more involved in politics locally and nationally

## New Chancellor gets a taste of battle

Kenneth Clarke was appointed Chancellor for his political talents rather than for his economic judgment. He is an astute broadbrush politician with acute populist instincts. But he has seldom shown depth, and his bruising approach landed him in trouble at both the health and education departments. So far he has always been able to dig himself out through his quick wits. But the Treasury is more demanding. Casual remarks there could send seismic shocks through the markets. Success will depend not just on his proven abilities at the despatch box, but on a coherent intellectual framework.

His immediate political task has been to buy time for the government, and for the prime minister himself. As John Major pointed out in the Commons last Wednesday in his bruised response to Norman Lamont, "a strong government needs political skills as well as economic and financial skills" when leading a democratic society and, in particular, when han-

dling a lively House of Commons with a small majority.

What Mr Lamont lacked — and it was real reason for his sacking — was the ability to instil confidence. Many of his decisions were shrewd and his Commons performances were resilient, but he often seemed defensive and prickly in public. He had none of the bouncy self-assurance, at times bordering on arrogance, of Denis Healey or Nigel Lawson. Even when times were tough, as they certainly were for Lord Healey for more than half his Chancellorship, he gave the impression of knowing where he and the economy were going.

Mr Clarke has a similar quality of vulgar rumbustiousness. His street-fighting qualities and candour, admitting the government is in a "dreadful hole", are disarming. His remarks so far as Chancellor have already raised the morale of Tory

MPs and made him the fashion of the moment.

Such battling counter-attacks are not just his instinctive approach to any problem. He believes the public has to be offered a coherent long-term strategy if it is to accept the tough times ahead. And if the government is to ride out likely continued unpopularity over the next 18 months, particularly following the tough spending and tax decisions in the first unified Budget at the end of November.

While offering confidence, Mr Clarke has been cautious in talking about the economy. He has described recovery as modest and has noticeably avoided talking up expectations.

That is sensible political tactics. But it begs the economic questions. Even if a return to the ERM is off the agenda for the rest of this parliament, the government may still have to adopt a more active exchange-rate policy at some stage. Mr Clarke will have to show he is deter-

mined to stick to the 1 to 4 per cent inflation target.

More immediately, starting in his Mansion House speech tonight, he has to show how he intends to cut the £50 billion budget deficit. The skirmishing over the week-end between senior ministers about what spending and tax options are ruled out is merely a forerunner of this autumn's battles.

The outcome will be determined not by what is said now, or by the statement of good intentions on spending produced after this Thursday's cabinet meeting, but by what looks least politically unacceptable in five months' time. No one wants more tax increases. But when ministers have rejected cuts in spending which the whips believe are unsaleable, they may have to consider higher taxes.

To succeed as Chancellor Mr Clarke will have to show that he can read the economy and the financial markets as well as the mood at Westminster.

PETER RIDDELL

## New peers must work for their seats

BY SHEILA GUNN  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major is to create a new batch of working peers who have given a personal commitment to take an active part in the work of the upper House.

The honours list, to be announced by the prime minister this summer, will reinforce the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat benches' with around 20 life peers who are regarded as ministerial material. They will be picked in recognition of their impressive records in commerce, academia, the professions or public life.

Lord Wakeham, the Lords' leader, is insisting that his new recruits should be prepared to commit themselves to abiding by the "whip" by turning up loyally to vote in the government's lobby. He is known to be envious of the way Lord Cledwyn, Labour's former leader in the Lords, used occasional lists of working peers to pull together a stronger frontbench team than his own.

Although Lord Wakeham's predecessors had injections of life peers from the "working" list, many of the new recruits either did not turn up regularly, or developed the tendency of voting against the government when they did.

A recent example of work-turned-rebel is Lord Pearson of Rannoch, the Scottish businessman, who is a leader of the EC-sceptic peers. Baroness Flather, the former mayor of Windsor and Maidenhead, has rebelled against the government's asylum bill.

Lord Wakeham has told colleagues that he expects potential recruits to show a personal commitment to helping the government pilot its legislation through the Lords. If they prove themselves on the backbenches, they are likely to be offered ministerial posts.

## Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Trade union reform and employment rights bill, Lords amendments. Finance bill, ways and means resolution. Lords (2.30): Railways bill, second reading. Northern Ireland (emergency and prevention of terrorism provisions) (continuance) order.



Townend: "Forget any idea of increasing tax"



Biffen: deficit cannot be bridged by cuts alone

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## City audience awaits tough words on public spending

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH Clarke stands up to speak tonight, a debutant on his first appearance at a great event in the social calendar. That alone should ensure that the new Chancellor will use the traditional Mansion House speech to range far beyond the normal confines of monetary policy.

His speech is likely to echo the general thrust of the last Mansion House speech, delivered at its normal time in November by his predecessor (but now moved to provide a key economic policy statement in the middle of the year after the creation of a unified Budget in the autumn).

In that performance, shortly after the collapse of the government's exchange-rate policy, Norman Lamont remained true to the Conservative anti-inflation mantra by setting a target range for inflation, but also signalled a return to a national policy with growth as the first priority.

Mr Clarke, in recent press comments, confirmed that his first aim is to sustain recovery. Speculation in the City since his appointment has revolved — displaying the short-termism attributed to the government by Mr Lamont — around whether the new Chancellor has room to risk another minor cut in base rates. This seems extremely unlikely, although a batch of economic statistics this week

are expected to show a sluggish recovery, including a rise in unemployment, and subdued inflationary pressures.

It is exactly because of the departing shots of Mr Lamont, accusing the government of politically inspired interest rate cuts, that Mr Clarke will not be able to cut rates today. As economists at Lehman Brothers note about the former Chancellor, whose opposition to the last cut in interest rates was overruled by his prime minister: "His speech... now makes it impossible for the government to cut interest rates in the near term. Poor old Norman had to be 'reshuffled' to get his way."

Another reason for Mr Clarke to exercise extreme caution on interest rates for now is last week's pre-emptive broadside by Eddie George, who takes over as governor of the Bank of England next month. He insisted that "reports of the death of inflation are greatly exaggerated... there is no near evidence that inflation will fall further over the next year."

The one big difference since last autumn is the state of public finances which Mr Clarke will be under some pressure to address. The City is looking for some hefty rhetoric on this subject, not least because Mr Clarke has an opportunity to express a view as the public spending

negotiations get underway. The old timing of the Mansion House speech meant that the deals were all but done by the time the Chancellor delivered his thoughts.

The City is agnostic on whether the deficit is reduced through spending cuts or tax increases, although indirect taxes such as VAT would be unpopular because they add to inflation. The uncertainty revolves around whether the Chancellor will be content to stick with current tax and spending plans or whether the "onset" of recovery will persuade him to hint at a further fiscal squeeze in the autumn.

Michael Saunders, chief UK economist at Salomon Brothers, believes that the Chancellor may well use his honeymoon period in Westminster to signal an extra fiscal tightening which would please his sceptical audience in the City. What Andrew Britton, director of the National Institute for Economic and Social Research and one of the Treasury's independent forecasting panel, is looking for is budget restraint which will do the least damage to growth and employment.

## Flats bill attacked

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

A KNOT of Tory backbenchers launched a ferocious assault last night on one of the government's prime pieces of legislation, allowing tenants to buy the freehold on blocks of flats. Conservatives angered by plans to force landlords to sell freeholds attacked the government's housing and urban development bill as "reprehensible", "abhorrent", "wretched" and "miserable".

The bill will enable some 750,000 tenants to purchase the freehold on properties, including some of most valuable estates in London. Michael Jopling, MP for Westmorland and Lonsdale,

said he had never been more ashamed of a piece of Conservative legislation. The bill amounted to confiscation of property and interference in freely agreed contracts.

Sir Jerry Wiggin (Westminster) and Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, (Cirencester and Tewkesbury) accused the government of introducing poor and unfair legislation.

Sir George Young, the housing minister, appeased some Tory critics by accepting a Lords amendment allowing freehold purchase only by tenants who had occupied a flat for the previous year or for three years in the previous ten.

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# German left picks helmsman for party that has lost its way

FROM ROGER BOVENS  
IN BONN

RUDOLF Scharping, a political scientist aged 45, was endorsed by the Social Democratic Party (SPD) executive yesterday as the party's future leader. Few, however, believe that the bearded, rather dour politician will be able to rebuild the crucial axis between party supporters who wear cashmere sweaters and those who wear clothing.

The collapse of the coalition between the SPD and the industrial workers' unions plunged Germany into a state of seemingly permanent crisis. The executive endorsement of Herr Scharping's nomination by an unprecedented rank-and-file election on Sunday was supposed to put a stop to the squabbling.

For the past month, since Björn Engholm was pressured into resigning, the struggle at the top of the SPD has resembled a bitter family quarrel as the ambitious political grandchildren of the late Willy Brandt tried to salvage some of the former chancellor's dignity and sureness of touch. The point has been underlined by Brandt's young widow, the historian Brigitte Seebacher-Brandt, who is determined to keep her grip on his diaries and letters lest revisionists try to reshape his biography and reinvent the party.

Herr Scharping is currently prime minister of Rhineland-Palatinate. Despite his success yesterday, he is still not the formal candidate for chancellor, and more months of infighting can be expected while the party tries to come up with an agreed rival to the Christian Democrat Helmut Kohl.

The malaise in Western Europe, and Germany in particular, has been blamed on weak leadership or the failings of the political class. Equally important, however, has been the collapse of a socialist alternative. The end of com-

■ Despite his success Herr Scharping is not the formal candidate for chancellor. Months of infighting can be expected as the party hunts for a rival to Helmut Kohl

munist rule in East Europe, should have created new opportunities on the left, especially in Italy, where the thoroughly reformed former Communist party, now the Democratic Party of the Left, could have been drawn into the orbit of government.

In Germany, the end of the East German republic, as the east should have seen, has brought success for social democracy. The 130-year-old SPD has deep historical roots in the cities and the ports of the east and could have presented itself as a natural ally of the eastern worker. Instead, the rival Christian Democrats almost swept the board.

Social democratic parties rarely fare well in a recession, since it is difficult to be the party of social and economic redistribution when there is little to redistribute. Also, in employment or, worse, the fear of unemployment, brings out conservative instincts. These anxieties became clearly visible in eastern Germany during the recent steel and engineering strike. Workers questioned at the factory gates said they wanted

justice from the west in the form of equal pay but not at the price of destroying their work place. That does not make east Germany a happy hunting ground for the party.

The cashmere-cloth cap coalition within the SPD has now to be renegotiated by Herr Scharping. The party's leaders need, like Willy Brandt, to be workers, or at least drawn from generations of worker families. But the successor generation was recruited mainly from the radical young socialist movement of the 1960s and 1970s.

In those days, they used to talk about the need to raise worker "consciousness". Now their radicalism has dulled and, as leaders of provincial government, they have tasted real power and enjoy real perks. Not for nothing is the upcoming generation known as the Tümeny factors: they holiday in Cortina, have cell phones, and wear Armani ties with their cashmere sweaters.

German workers, too, have changed. The old verities, a job for life, a monolithic working class, are crumbling. Miners in the Ruhr still breed pigeons, but the SPD clubhouse is no longer the centre of their social life and, like Labour supporters in Britain, they are very sensitive to the possibility of having to pay higher taxes.



Scharping, listening to early results of the poll

## Christopher backs human rights plan

FROM MATTHEW D'ANCONA IN VIENNA

WARREN Christopher, the US Secretary of State, yesterday gave a much needed boost to the troubled United Nations human rights conference in Vienna by pledging strong American support for a range of humanitarian proposals.

Mr Christopher promised American backing for the establishment of a UN high commissioner on human rights. White House support for this proposal is regarded as an essential step as delegates from 180 governments edge awkwardly towards a consensus declaration on human rights in the 21st century.

"We must sharpen the tools of human rights diplomacy to address problems before they escalate into violence and create new parish states," Mr Christopher said.

Invoking the names of Tom Paine, Robert F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, the secretary of state also said the United States would move to ratify a series of UN conventions including, most strikingly, the 1966 covenant on economic, social and cultural rights, which has always been regarded as alien to American market values.

His speech, on the opening day of the conference, brought welcome attention to an assembly already threatened by serious divisions over procedural points and the principle of universal human rights. Mr Christopher said: "America would strongly oppose any states who sought to undermine the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

To those who say democracy is a Western contrivance, I say, you forgot to tell the people of Cambodia. Ninety per cent of them summoned the courage, in the face of real threats, to reclaim their country by voting in last month's UN-monitored elections. In what was once a killing field, democracy is taking root.

Earlier in the day, Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, sought to defend the embattled principle of universality and the past record of the UN in its enforcement. The Geneva-based UN centre for human rights, he said, had "undergone profound changes in recent years" while European organisations such as the Council of Europe had "shown the way" in their defence of humanitarianism. Pressed on proposals for a UN high commissioner on human rights, the secretary-general promised support only "if everyone agrees".

Leading article, page 17



Act of faith: Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, crossing himself on a visit to Athens' metropolitan cathedral yesterday. Dr Karadzic said the Greek government intended to invite Serbs and Croats to talks in the capital

## IMF aid ready for Russia

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU  
IN WASHINGTON

THE International Monetary Fund, stung by criticism by Lloyd Bentsen, the US Treasury secretary, over the delay of aid payment to Russia, is ready to pay the first \$1.5 billion (£1 billion) tranche of an internationally co-ordinated aid package ahead of the Group of Seven summit in Tokyo early next month.

The IMF strongly denies American allegations last week that it is holding up the delivery because of Moscow's alleged failure to come up with a convincing economic stabilisation and reform package. In total Russia is eligible for \$13 billion in IMF credits, while the value of the assistance programme is generally put at \$43 billion, which includes food and export credits and a \$6-billion stabilisation package.

IMF officials maintain that the negotiations with the Russian government have been proceeding according to plan, although it is believed there has been some frustration over Russian compliance with IMF-imposed conditions.

## Report condemns 'chaos' of EC's London offices

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE European Commission has begun an urgent search for a new director of its London office after a devastating report which accused the office of lack of discipline, not treating its staff properly, failing to give out proper information, and allowing too much alcohol inside the building.

The report, presented last November by staff trained in quality control by outside consultants, submitted a list of 18 problems hampering the work of the office, the official representation of the European Commission in Britain. These included: an overload of unnecessary paperwork; failure to answer the telephone; lack of training and opportunities for the staff and lack of communication between management and staff.

The report spoke of an "extreme hierarchical culture in the Commission", decisions made and meetings held for appearances' sake, the lack of faith in decisions made by the management group, the inexperience of this group and an unwillingness to change. It said the London office did

not liaise properly with the smaller EC offices in Belfast and Cardiff and Edinburgh; did not circulate the agenda for meetings in time; did not motivate its staff or allow them to put their ideas to the top management.

In a list of suggestions for how meetings should be run, the report painted a damning picture of a chaotic organisation. It recommended that all meetings should be open and honest and start promptly, there should be no rambling, alcohol should be banned and everyone speaking should be listened to.

The "quality control" group, in its confidential memorandum, admitted that several of the long list of problems could not be controlled or were not worth solving. It identified poor management, a hierarchical structure and unsatisfactory communications as the main causes, but also spoke of a lack of trust, staff indifference and fear.

Officials in Brussels were reluctant to voice public criticism, but their private opinions were forthright. "We bypass the London office,"

There is no comparison with the offices in Bonn and Paris — we can really work through them. They submit proper week by week reports to us on what's going on, and they sell our messages properly."

John Drew, the then director and a former first secretary in the British diplomatic service, left the £84,000 post on May 14. He said yesterday: "I've always been interested in the concept of quality control in organisations and therefore on my own initiative I established a quality programme. This report was an internal document, discussed with all members of staff, and a number of useful recommendations were made. Doubtless further suggestions will come from staff."

Complaints about the Commission office are widespread, and most focus on the difficulty of getting information about the EC. No figure was available in London for the cost of running the office each year, but it is understood to be substantial, running into millions of pounds.

Leading article, page 17

## Croats forced to flee avenging Muslims

BY TIM JUDAH  
BALKANS CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of Bosnian Croats were in flight yesterday as avenging Muslim troops burned and sacked Croat villages in central Bosnia. Veso Vigar, a Bosnian Croat army spokesman, said 10,000 Croats were flooding into the small town of Kakanj while another 5,000 were "roaming in the woods".

The reports of further "ethnic cleansing" and Muslim-Croat clashes in central Bosnia-Herzegovina, showed that a ceasefire agreed in Geneva on Sunday had been ignored. Diplomatic sources also said that talks between Croats and Muslims yesterday in Geneva had failed.

In London, the Bosnia-Herzegovina Information Centre, which acts on the behalf of the Sarajevo government, said that the repercussions of the fighting in central Bosnia were being felt among refugees in Croatia. Indijana Harper said that 680 Muslim refugees were being threatened with imminent eviction from settlements in Dalmatia and that they were to be sent to a tent city in eastern Croatia.

In eastern Bosnia, Serb forces continued their assault on the besieged Muslim enclave of Gorazde. On Sunday, 52 people were reported to have died in a rocket attack on a makeshift hospital in the enclave. Yesterday, a ham radio operator there made a dramatic appeal for help. "The destruction of civilians is continuing," Mustafa Kurtovic said. "Dozens of projectiles from multiple-rocket launchers are slamming the town."

More than 50,000 people are crammed into the enclave, which has been cut off, apart from partisan trails. Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general, called for a new international conference on former Yugoslavia. Speaking in Vienna, he said he was in favour of a new round of the London conference, which last August set up the UN-European Community peace negotiations chaired by Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance. Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, gave a cautious welcome to the call.

All the leading actors in the Yugoslav drama are to gather in Geneva tomorrow in an effort by Lord Owen to get the stalled diplomatic process moving.

In Belgrade, Vuk Draskovic, the imprisoned opposition leader, was moved to a hospital for diagnosis and treatment of injuries received at the hands of police.

Guards order, page 1

## Italy mulls electoral reform bill

Rome: The Italian parliament yesterday began examining an electoral reform bill to introduce a British-style voting system to replace the proportional representation (John Phillips writes).

Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, the prime minister, has made electoral reform his main priority. In a sign of the importance of the debate, he attended the presentation of the bill on the government front bench last night, although the prime minister is not an elected MP.

## Le Pen loses

Strasbourg: A French court dismissed a libel suit by Jean-Marie Le Pen, the extreme-right National Front leader, against a critic who branded him "the spiritual son of Hitler", and ordered the politician to pay costs. (Reuter)

## Bankers tried

Ulan Bator: Two former governors of Mongolia's central bank and three other bankers went on trial on charges that they virtually wiped out the country's foreign-exchange reserves by losing \$53 million in bad deals. (Reuter)

## Li Peng back

Peking: The Chinese prime minister, Li Peng, emerged from a seven-week mystery absence yesterday, ending mounting speculation about his ill health.

## Congo turmoil

Brazzaville: The Congolese capital was paralysed after a night of gunfire. Opposition supporters manned roadblocks in protest at the May 2 election which they claimed was rigged. (AFP)

## Climber killed

Jakarta: Anak Krakatau, a small volcanic island in Indonesia, suddenly spewed out hot lava, killing an American tourist and injuring his five companions, including three Britons. (AP)

## Burnt spice

Jakarta: Indonesia, which produces 70 per cent of the world's supply of nutmeg, is burning hundreds of tonnes of the spice in an attempt to boost its depressed price. (Reuter)

## Pope laments plight of the unemployed

FROM REUTERS IN HUELVA

THE Pope yesterday attacked profit-oriented economic theories which have led to mass unemployment and the loss of moral values reflected in "the abominable crime of abortion". Visiting the southern Spanish region that was the point of departure for Christopher Columbus 500 years ago to the Americas, he called for a second evangelisation to restore Christian values.

"We must have a new creative effort to evangelise the world," he told 10,000 people at a Mass. The challenge is a decisive one that cannot be delayed," Echoing a theme he

raised in Seville on Sunday, the Pope said excessive emphasis on profit in economics today was leading to what he called "the tragedy of unemployment". He also said that the loss of moral values was hurting family life, weighed under by separation and divorce, and in turn having a negative effect on young people.

"The absence of moral values that only God can inspire, is also at the root of economic systems that ignore personal dignity, placing profit as their priority and their only motivation," he said.

## French sing praises of lone-wolf rocker

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

GENERAL De Gaulle is long dead and Brigitte Bardot has retreated to the land of mistreated animals, so it is not surprising that France is celebrating today the 50th birthday of that surviving icon of the postwar era: Jean-Philippe Smet.

M Smet is better known by his stage name Johnny Hallyday, the greatest rock star of all time — at least in France — and a figure who towers over the pop business as the romantic hero of two generations. A deluge of tributes, a collection of 42 CDs costing £600, and *La Nuit Johnny* on television have kicked off the celebrations of Hallyday's half-century. The climax will come on Friday night when, muscles rippling and ear-rings flashing, the blue-eyed rocker rides his beloved Harley-Davidson on

to the stage at the Parc des Princes football stadium in the first of three shows for 50,000 fans a night.

Foreigners may scoff, as the local intelligentsia used to, over the naive blond boy in the drainpipes and gold lamé jacket who, 33 years ago, aped Elvis Presley and went on to Gallicise a stream of rock classics. But the thinking classes long ago joined the working masses who revere Hallyday more as a phenomenon than singer. "Who are you, M Hallyday? A reincarnation of James Dean? A Great Gatsby? A tragic hero? ... You are all of these and more," gushed the leftist *L'Evenement du Jeudi* news magazine this week.

There has been little to add since revered philosophers defined Hallyday in the late 1960s as "a new Orpheus", a "French Mayakovsky" and ul-



Hallyday: working-class hero of the intelligentsia

France without Johnny. His stream of divorces, first from Sylvia Vartan, the singer, and most recently his marriage to Adeline Blondiaux, 19, as well as his long partnership with Nathalie Baye, the actress, has kept *Paris Match* in business.

JoJo, as his fans know him, may speak little English, but he is France's very own all-American rebel hero, a man who has managed to create his own mythology, calling himself "un rocker, condamné à vivre en loup solitaire" (condemned to live like a lone wolf). He has aged well, thanks to a regime of weightlifting and healthy living at his home in St Tropez. If anything, he has grown to fit his legend as a sun-tanned warrior of the wide open spaces, an urban tough guy who happens to speak the language of Descartes.

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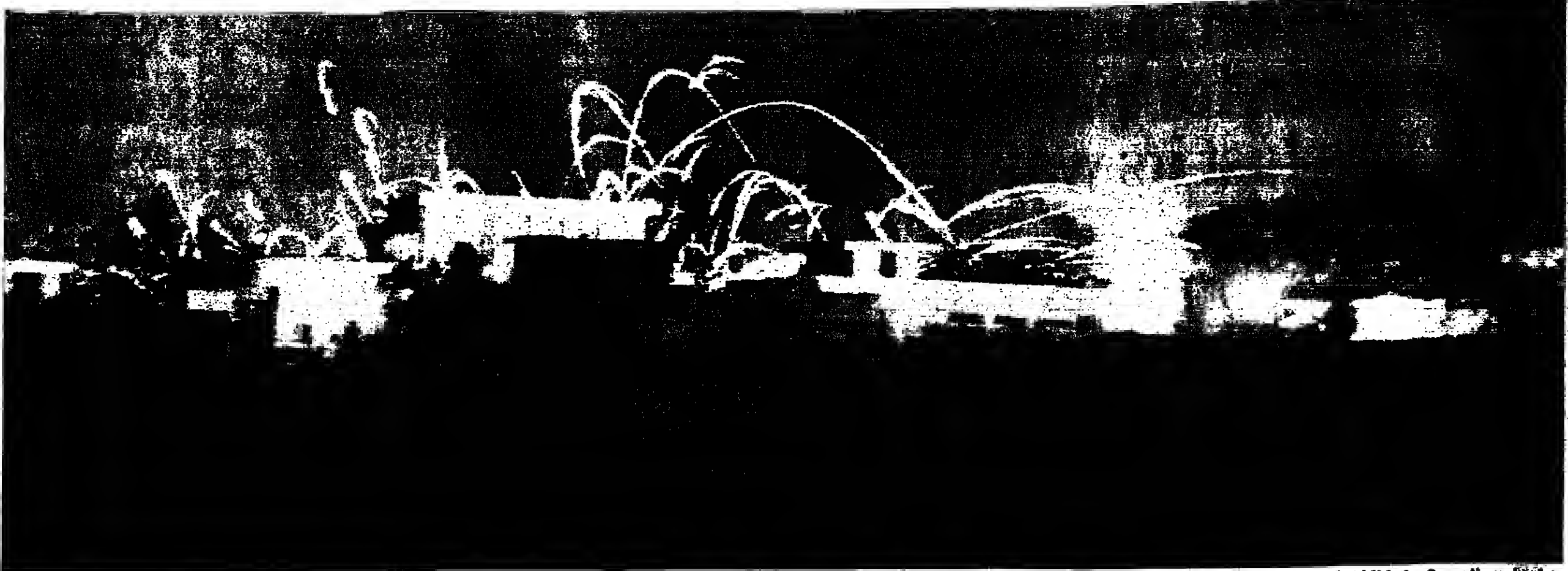
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Night raid: exploding shells and blazing buildings light up Mogadishu's skyline after the third night of attacks by American planes on positions held by General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the Somali warlord

## Aidid offers talks as UN rocket injures civilians

FROM SAM KILEY  
IN MOGADISHU

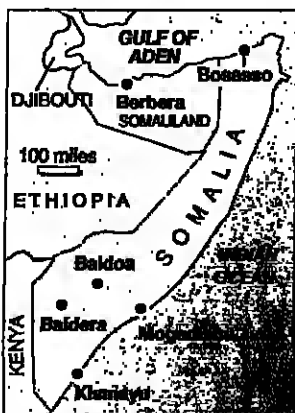
AFTER three days of night bombardment by the US air force, General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the Mogadishu warlord, yesterday offered to negotiate with the United Nations and appealed to it to end the aggression against him.

He was addressing a press conference as a stray anti-tank rocket fired by a UN Cobra helicopter hit a busy street, injuring 12 civilians. The wounded included two women and a man who was not expected to live.

Admiral Jonathan Howe, head of the UN Operation in Somalia (Unosom), strongly denied that the helicopter, which also destroyed an ancient BM21 rocket-launcher, had fired more than a single round and that there were any civilian casualties.

With the UN in Mogadishu already more unpopular than any warlord, as a result of Sunday's attack on civilian demonstrators by UN Pakistani troops in which at least 20 people were killed, the admiral's denial of further civilian casualties amazed people who watched the rocket attack. There is no doubt that the first rocket fired by the UN helicopter missed the BM21 and hit the ground near an open-air tea shop, failing to detonate. The helicopter then fired a second round, which

UN forces are destroying General Aidid's ability to wage war in Somalia but at the cost of increasing his popularity and ruining their own



exploded when it struck the rocket-launcher. The tea shop hit by the US rocket was left as a jumble of stools, a broken gourd, a steaming Thermos flask and a puddle of blood. One of the wounded women was hit in the throat by a shower of sand and splinters. The other was rushed to hospital with an eye dangling from its socket.

With yet more UN Cobras hovering overhead, General Aidid said at his press conference at his residence in the Somali capital that the UN was becoming "an instrument

of oppression rather than of relief in Somalia", adding: "We would like to reaffirm our willingness to co-operate with the UN and call on the US and UN to immediately reconsider the use of violence."

Once the most powerful warlord in southern Somalia, he seized on the widespread condemnation of the killing of the civilians on Sunday to portray the world body as a heartless aggressor acting on orders from Washington. "The aggression has been deliberately planned and executed by the US and Unosom," he said.

The general spoke from a wide desk covered with a kitsch tablecloth. To his right the platform was decorated with a vase of colourful feather-dusters, while to his left stood a bowl of plastic fruit. Wild-haired teenagers armed with AK47s stared aggressively at the UN helicopters. Others, holding pistols, stared down at the journalists seated at the general's feet on a yellow and brown carpet.

As the warlord's military power has swiftly waned under the American-led aerial onslaught, his political pres-

tige has risen. Abdullah Shaikh Ahmed, speaking near where the unexploded UN rocket fell, said: "Before, we did not respect the leaders. They were just leaders of looters and bandits. We welcomed the US troops, but now we are behind the [Somali] leaders and want the foreigners to leave."

Earlier yesterday morning, compounds containing lorries and heavy construction equipment, as well as old armoured cars and battle wagons, adjacent to the general's villa were reduced to blackened twisted metal. Lieutenant-Colonel Kevin McGovern, the UN military spokesman, said no civilians had been killed in the 90-minute raid by a Hercules aircraft, which fired round after round from its howitzer and gatling guns into the compounds. But the charred body of a young boy caught in a shell flash lay just outside the gates of the general's house.

Anxious to offset any sympathy for the warlord and his followers, Lt Col McGovern said that his United Somali Congress/Somali National (USC/SN) alliance constantly used women and children as human shields to get close to UN positions and then tried to overrun them.

"This leadership has no respect for the lives or women and children," he said, but he declined to say whether the attacks on General Aidid's compounds were intended to break the Somali general's military backbone. Lt Col McGovern admitted, however, that this was an inevitable consequence of the destruction of the USC/SN's ability to wage war.

Since Sunday's killings Mogadishu has been extremely tense. A crowd of about 1,000 gathered about 600 yards from the Pakistani positions yesterday morning but decided against marching past the soldiers.

"That was just as well," said Major Javed Oshad, commander of the Pakistani detachment. "If people march on us and hide gunmen in the body of the crowd then we will open fire again. Yesterday we came under fire and responded. We would do the same again."

UN dispute, page 1  
Peter Brookings, page 16



Boutros Ghali, attending conference in Vienna

## UN chief 'regrets' Somali killings

FROM JAMES BONE  
IN NEW YORK

THE killing of at least 20 apparently unarmed demonstrators in the Somali capital on Sunday drew condemnation yesterday from Italy, the former colonial power, and Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general, expressed his sorrow.

"Certainly I regret this certain accident," Dr Boutros Ghali said in Vienna, where he is attending a UN conference on human rights.

Although reporters on the scene heard no shots before UN troops opened fire, the international organisation said the Pakistani peacekeepers were responding to hostile fire and Somali might have shot into the crowd in Mogadishu to provoke unrest.

The killings in Mogadishu are just the latest in a series of setbacks delivered to UN peacekeepers by the Bosnian Serbs, the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia, Angolan UNITA rebels, and government agents in Iraq, as the organisation struggles to uphold what some have termed the "pax United Nations". Although the number of UN peacekeepers around the world has grown from 10,000 five years ago to 70,000 today, the operations are still run on a shoestring.

At American insistence, a new peacekeeping "situation room" has been set up in a building across the street from UN headquarters. But it is still rudimentary, and has been described as "six Egyptian generals watching CNN".

## Barbecue Bill woos press with hot-dog diplomacy

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AFTER five months of open warfare with the White House press corps, President Clinton is suing for peace.

On Sunday night he finally put aside his icy hostility towards the Fourth Estate and tried hot-dog diplomacy instead. At short notice he and Hillary invited 300 journalists and their spouses to a South Lawn barbecue and personally greeted every guest. Casually dressed, the president spent a balmy summer evening "schmoozing" in a huge marquee with those he had recently accused of making him a "punching-bag".

On the grass outside, with the Lincoln Memorial as floodlit backdrop, the press and White House staffers battled at nothing more serious than volleyball and badminton.

Reconciliation was the order of the day. Mrs Clinton, before introducing "old whatshisname", said how much she looked forward to getting to know the press corps better. Mr Clinton joked about telling aides that if there was to be a barbecue for journalists "I was not to be put on the spit". To the tune of Jimmy Buffet's "Margaritaville" the White House press officers all sang:

"Don't know the reason/ Relations were frozen/I hope you'll like us/I know we like you." In its confrontation with the press corps, remarked one smug journalist, the White House had "just blinked in a big way".

Shepherding the president around was David Gergen, Mr Clinton's new counsellor, unofficial envoy to the media and mastermind of the new charm offensive. Himself a former journalist, he has finally persuaded the president that communicating with the nation through a filter of unhappy and alienated reporters makes no sense.

President Kennedy realised that. He befriended many journalists and worked the press better than any of his successors. Being young, energetic and charming, Mr Clinton is also the sort of president that the White House press corps is supposed to admire, but they transparently do not.

Not since Richard Nixon has a president inspired such antagonism, or had so few friends in the media to tell his side of a story. The only prominent journalist among the Clintons' huge network of old friends is Strobe Talbott, but he has been made roving

ambassador to the former Soviet republics.

The press corps, which never underestimates its importance, has been smouldering with resentment at its lack of access and loss of status since Mr Clinton became president. They were bypassed, mistreated and treated with arrogant disdain by George Stephanopoulos, the spokesman who became the first victim of Mr Gergen's recent appointment. These are people who President Bush used to invite to films in the White House, Kermesunkport picnics or rides in his speedboat.

Courting the press did not save Mr Bush but it undoubtedly helps. White House journalists consider themselves as much a part of the Washington elite as congressmen and senators. Their egos require similar massaging, and they are just as susceptible to presidential flattery.

On Sunday night even the hardest-nosed were lining up to be photographed with the president or get his autograph. The next time Mr Clinton chooses an inappropriate time for a haircut, they may - despite their protestations to the contrary - be a shade more charitable.

## Jewish woman judge picked to conclude Clinton ordeal

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton yesterday ended an 88-day wait by naming Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 60, a federal judge from Washington, as his surprise choice to replace Byron White on the Supreme Court.

If confirmed, Judge Ginsburg will join Sandra Day O'Connor as the only woman to serve on America's highest court and the first Jew since Abe Fortas retired in 1969. She is considered a moderate and a consensus-builder, though broadly pro-choice and a past champion of women's rights.

She is the first nominee of a Democratic president since 1967 and should draw a right-leaning court towards the centre on social issues. After 12 years of Republican administrations, Mr White was the

last Democratic appointee left on the nine-member court.

Senior senators of both parties, including members of the judiciary committee, welcomed Ms Ginsburg's nomination, saying she appeared well-qualified and predicting that she would be confirmed with little trouble.

The announcement ended a tortuous selection process, the longest in more than 25 years, during which Mr Clinton veered from one possible candidate to another and reinforced his reputation for indecision and weakness in the face of political resistance.

His first choice, Mario Cuomo, the New York governor, told Mr Clinton he did not want the job. His second, Bruce Babbitt, the interior

secretary, lost favour last week when environmentalists and western Democrats demanded he be kept where he was. His third, Judge Stephen Breyer, of Massachusetts, appeared to have secured the nomination until Saturday's disclosure that he had a servant problem similar to those which had prevented Zoe Baird and Kimba Wood from becoming attorney-general.

Ms Ginsburg studied law at Harvard, fought a number of cases before the Supreme Court for the American Civil Liberties Union in the 1970s that helped outlaw sex discrimination, and then taught law at Rutgers and Columbia Universities before President Carter appointed her to the federal bench in 1980.

## Leading Muslims call for withdrawal of Pakistanis

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN IN KARACHI

ISLAMIC leaders have called for the immediate withdrawal of Pakistani soldiers from Somalia after UN peacekeepers on Sunday killed 20 demonstrators in Mogadishu, reportedly to avenge the massacre of 23 of their comrades by Somali gunmen last week.

"It is deplorable that Pakistani soldiers are pitted against the Muslims in Somalia," said Ghafoor Ahmed, the deputy chief of Jamaat-i-Islami, an influential fundamentalist party. Thousands of angry supporters of the group chanted anti-American slogans in a countrywide protest

march against the presence of UN peacekeeping forces in Somalia and the killing of the Pakistani soldiers. "The UN forces are serving the US imperialist design against Islamic countries," said Qazi Hussein Ahmed, a prominent Islamic leader.

More than 4,700 Pakistani troops are serving with the UN peacekeeping force in war-torn Somalia. The first batch of 500 Pakistani soldiers arrived in Somalia last September. Their number is being increased as the US troops were withdrawn. The killing of the UN soldiers sent a

shockwave across the country. Pakistani officials called for punitive action against General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the Mogadishu warlord, and also demanded that the peacekeepers be provided with tanks and helicopter gunships to defend themselves against the terrorists' action.

But Islamic leaders believe the main objective of the UN and American forces is to encircle Sudan which has become the centre of Islamic revolution. "Pakistan should not allow itself to become a part of that conspiracy," declared Mr Ahmed.

## Tussle set over dual anthems

FROM RAY KENNEDY  
IN JOHANNESBURG

A PROPOSAL that South Africa should have two national anthems, one for whites and one for blacks, is certain to provoke new controversy as the constitutional talks enter a week in which negotiators hope to set a date for the first multiracial election.

A proposal that white South Africa should keep *Die Stem van Suid Afrika* (The Call of South Africa) while blacks adopt *Nkosi Sikelele Afrika* (God Bless Africa), the hymn of the liberation movement, has been put to the talks by the government.

Tomorrow, millions of blacks plan to stay away from work to mark the seventeenth anniversary of the Soweto uprising against the teaching of Afrikaans in black schools.

Bernard Levin, page 16

## Victorious Campbell must ditch sound for substance

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN OTTAWA

KIM Campbell, the extrovert Vancouver lawyer who will soon become Canada's first woman prime minister, once savaged a political rival with the remark "Charisma without substance is a dangerous thing."

Having won the leadership of the Progressive Conservative Party by a narrow margin, after a campaign that was full of soundbites and controversy but almost totally lacking in serious political discussion, Ms Campbell's first task will be to prove that she is not a dangerous thing.

On Sunday night, after two ballots and a fierce challenge from Jean Charest, 34, the environment minister, the Tories elected Ms Campbell to replace Brian Mulroney, the outgoing prime minister, as party leader by 53 per cent to Mr Charest's 47 per cent.



Campbell: antithesis of type Canadians admire

This was hardly the "coronation" of Ms Campbell expected when Mr Mulroney announced in February his decision to step down. Most newspapers had backed Mr Charest. "New PM needs new vision," said the *Toronto*

*Star*. The *Globe and Mail* called her a "politically risky" choice.

Ms Campbell has a very short time to show her substance. Her first test will be the summit of the Group of Seven leading industrialised nations in Tokyo. National elections are expected to take place in the autumn.

Canadian politics has never seen the like of Ms Campbell before. Acrobatic, brittle and with a glinting ambition, she is in many ways the antithesis of what is commonly held to be the solid and worthy national character. Avowedly intellectual, with a quick mind and quicker tongue, Ms Campbell can appear alternately harsh and bewitching, arrogant and entertaining. She can be extremely funny, and she can be acutely insulting.

## Malawi voters queue to end one-party rule

FROM JAN RAATH IN BLANTYRE

MALAWIANS swarmed to the polls yesterday to vote over the country's one-party constitution. The unexpected vigour of their response promises a landslide rejection of nearly 30 years of dictatorship.

Although the first results are not expected until early today, international observers and opposition groups were predicting an overwhelming victory for the pro-democracy movement. "The historic will of the people has been shown in the way they have turned up," said Chakufwa Chihana, the leader of the Alliance for Democracy, in Lilongwe, adding that President Banda must "choose an honourable exit".

Outside the gates of the Blantyre tax office, the city's most central polling station, the five-deep queue early yesterday was more than half a mile long. "I want change," Preston Lemon, 25, a vegetable marketer, said. Other voters drew roars of approval when

they emerged giving the two-fingered multiparty salute.

Such open expressions of opinion are breathtaking in a country that was described by Africa Watch, the human rights organisation, as being so tightly controlled that opposition was "not only impossible but unthinkable". The catalyst for the erosion of the regime's control was a pastoral letter from the Roman Catholic bishops of Malawi on March 8 last year. The broke nearly three decades of silence by criticising the "climate of mistrust and fear" and calling for political reform.

A month later Mr Chihana, 52, started campaigning for change. Since then a second opposition group, the United Democratic Front, has been formed, and the two movements have joined with the Malawi Council of Churches, the Law Association of Malawi, and business groups to put pressure on the government.

## COMUNICACION DEL GOBIERNO ARGENTINO RELATIVA AL VOTO DE LOS CIUDADANOS ARGENTINOS EN EL EXTERIOR

El Gobierno de la Nación Argentina ha tomado la decisión de incorporar al proceso democrático a los argentinos residentes en el exterior a fin de que expresen su voluntad mediante la participación en los comicios nacionales a llevarse a cabo el día 14 de junio de 1993.

Por tal motivo:

1.- Se convoca a los ciudadanos argentinos que hayan constituido domicilio en el País Unido de Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte para que se inscriban en el registro de electores residentes en el exterior.

2.- Quiénes se inscriban en dicho registro antes del día 30 de junio de 1993, podrán participar en las elecciones nacionales argentinas a celebrarse el día 3 de octubre de 1993 y podrán votar a los candidatos a diputados nacionales correspondientes al distrito electoral señalado como último domicilio en la República Argentina en el Documento Nacional de Identidad (D.N.I.), Libro de Enrolamiento (L.E.) o Libro Cívico (L.C.) del interesado.

3.- Los requisitos para la inscripción en el registro de electores residentes son los siguientes:

a) Ser argentino nativo o naturalizado;  
b) Tener en su D.N.I., L.E. o L.C., el domicilio registrado correspondiente al País Unido de Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte antes del 30 de junio de 1993.

c) No estar comprendido dentro de las inhabilitaciones determinadas por la ley argentina.

4.- Esta inscripción es voluntaria y no obligatoria, así como al derecho de voto.

5.- Los interesados deberán concurrir a la sede del Consulado General de la República Argentina en Londres, dentro del horario de 9 a 17 horas de lunes a viernes, a fin de obtener más información y proceder, al tal lo desearan, a su inscripción dentro del registro de residentes argentinos en el exterior.

6.- Hasta el 30 de junio de 1993 este trámite podrá también realizarse los sábados de 9 a 17 horas.

La dirección del Consulado General de la República Argentina en Londres es:  
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Tel. (071) 599-5104, Fax (071) 594-7885.

CONSULADO GENERAL DE LA REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

15 JUN 1993



# Turkey pins hopes on woman leader for change of tack

BY ANDREW FUNKE  
ISTANBUL CORRESPONDENT

TANSU Ciller set about preparing what are expected to be wide-ranging changes in the senior ranks of the Turkish government the day after her True Path party appointed her Turkey's first woman prime minister. Mrs Ciller will now have to live up to the high expectations generated by the press, which promoted her as the "wind of change" that would sweep away the country's grey political establishment.

Mrs Ciller, 47, received her mandate to form a new cabinet from President Demirel. She later spoke of a "warm exchange" with the man who took her from her job as a professor of economics just three years ago. However, it is believed that he may have supported another candidate. Mr Demirel gave up the post of prime minister last month when he was elected president after the death of Turgut Ozal.

In the run-up to the general election in autumn 1991, Mrs Ciller's picture was used by True Path to project an image of a young, modern party that valued women. As minister with "responsibility" for the economy, she made some enemies, notably the chairman of the Central Bank and the principal under-secretary at the treasury. Her opponents said this was because of her policies. Her supporters said it was due to her frustration at being an outsider in Ankara's male-dominated political club.

On the eve of her endorsement at a special congress on Sunday, even the commentators who supported her candidacy believed that she lacked the experience to play the rough patronage game necessary to win over a majority of the 1,200 MPs and provincial delegates.

Her appointment also seems to have taken by surprise the junior coalition partner, the Social Democratic People's Party.

Those least surprised at her

■ Tansu Ciller's economic skills are proven. Foreign policy issues and, closer to home, ethnic Kurds will tax her further

success are former university colleagues who were taken aback by her tendency to "play hard ball" in the more genteel surroundings of academic life. "She has found her niche," said one former colleague in apparent relief that he would no longer have to face her at faculty board meetings.

Unlike other woman politicians who have come to prominence through a political dynasty, Mrs Ciller has succeeded through her own efforts. A school friend at Istanbul's American College for Girls described her as intelligent and motivated. Mrs

in property — at well over £30 million. Mr Ciller holds the franchise in Turkey for a chain of shops. They live in a fashionable neighbourhood of Istanbul, on a seafront house that overlooks the Bosphorus. It was here that Mrs Ciller entertained Baroness Thatcher when she was on a recent visit to the city.

Although the Turkish press, too, now refers to Mrs Ciller as an "Iron lady" it is far from clear whether she shares Lady Thatcher's enthusiasm for monetarism. At a meeting of the World Bank in Washington, Mrs Ciller issued what was in effect a rebuke to Mustafa Saracoglu, Turkey's principal central banker, for a high interest rate policy to protect the lira.

The rate of inflation in Turkey remains stable, albeit at the very high level of 60 per cent. There is some fear that if — as is almost certain — Mr Saracoglu leaves his post, it would be accompanied by a run on the lira and an increase in the money supply, which could fuel hyper-inflation.

At present, however, Mrs Ciller retains the support of the financial community. As a minister she promoted policies to encourage investment and regulate the stock exchange. She will now have to negotiate with the European Community, with which Turkey is scheduled by treaty to enter into full customs union by the end of 1995.

Mrs Ciller's skills will be tested by issues other than the economy. She has yet to make any substantial comments on the position of Turkey's ethnic Kurds, and she is largely untried in the field of foreign policy. Her victory will surprise Turkey's allies as much as her political rivals.

Leading article, page 17



Challenging choice: Tansu Ciller receives the cheers of supporters after defeating two male rivals for the leadership of the centre-right True Path party in Ankara. In becoming the first woman prime minister of the Muslim country, she has raised expectations of a new-broom administration

## British diplomat leaves challenge of Tehran

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN TEHRAN

BRITAIN'S most arduous diplomatic post, the much attacked three-storey embassy in the centre of Tehran, is to change hands next month when David Reddaway, the chargé d'affaires who reopened it in 1990, leaves for Buenos Aires.

The change was announced last night, at the Queen's birthday reception here, a bizarre annual event kept dry in deference to the Islamic officials present.

Long before the Salmani Rushdie affair, which has resulted in six bombs being thrown over the embassy wall and many hostile demonstrations, the building and the magnificent 17-acre British compound, bore much of the

brunt of Iran's anger against the West. Two years after the 1979 Islamic revolution, the street outside was officially renamed after Bobby Sands, the dead IRA hunger-striker, but Britain has refused to recognise the change.

Mr Reddaway once asked an Iranian official how he would like the street flanking the London mission renamed after the deposed Shah. When John Major met Mr Rushdie recently, the staff were put on maximum alert in case of retaliation, but there has been none. Instead, a Tehran magazine has offered a \$16,000 (£10,000) prize for the most grotesque caricature of the author of *The Satanic Verses*.

Two of the bomb blasts blew out windows in the home of Mr Reddaway's unflappable personal assistant, Marilyn McLaren, who became an MBE in the weekend birthday honours. Mr Reddaway, 40, became a CMG. Fluent in Farsi, he first served in Tehran from 1977 to 1980 in the turbulent period of the revolution and the seizure of 52 hostages who were held for 444 days at the American embassy. Diplomats were effectively cut in 1980.

In 1988 Sir Geoffrey Howe, then foreign secretary, sent Mr Reddaway to assess whether the Tehran embassy could be manned and to visit Roger Cooper, the British businessman imprisoned in Iran.

## Patten urged to catch colony's killer sharks

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

STORIES about man-eating sharks sell newspapers from Australia to Hong Kong, and the creature or creatures that have devoured two people here in two weeks, and another two years ago, are dominating the colony's front pages.

"We stalk the killer," *The Standard*, the liveliest of Hong Kong's two English-language daily newspapers declared yesterday. *The Standard* is sponsoring the visit here of Vic Hislop, a tiny Australian who is one of the world's most famous shark-hunters. Mr Hislop is a Crocodile Dundee-like character who wears a shark-tooth pendant, shorts and thongs. He has been busy for two days in his boat, flinging ducks and large fish into

Silverstrand bay where Kwong Konghing, a furniture dealer, had his leg and hand bitten off in waist-deep water last Friday by a shark said to be more than 18ft long.

While Mr Hislop is prowling for sharks, Tim Metcalf, *The Standard's* Sunday humorist, could not resist a swing at Chris Patten, the governor, much of whose time is taken up fending off attacks from Peking.

"Forget Li Peng, Chris," said Mr Metcalf's headline. "Wrestle the real terror." Mr Patten must board his yacht, *The Lady Maureen*, the columnist advised, and "catch this murderous beast himself... The bottom line is that this is war and we need a Churchill, not a Chamberlain. We want a winner, not a wimp."

## Priceless Islamic art. A 45-minute collector's item.

'Rear Window', the international arts and culture series, returns with two programmes on the Khalili Collection. 'Dispersed by Time' offers viewers the first ever chance to see the world's largest and most valuable collection of Islamic art. 'Seeing Red' screened the following week, looks at the controversy surrounding plans to house these priceless works of art in London.

'REAR WINDOW'  
TUESDAYS 9PM.





## Grim reapers, bitter harvests

Failure, frustration and fear are the everyday story of our farming folk

As Dwight Eisenhower once said, farming looks mighty easy when your plough is a pencil and you're a thousand miles from the cornfield. Gillian Shephard would do well to remember that when she sits down shortly with the National Farmers' Union to discuss the fact that the job of tending England's green and pleasant land appears to have become intolerably stressful.

Twenty farmers a day are getting out and, according to the grimmest estimates, a further four a day decide they are inextricably stuck in the slough of despond and kill themselves. This has been going on for several years — indeed, they were leaving at a rate of 30 a day while buyers could still be found for their land — and Britain is now down to a core of 281,000 farmers, carrying a collective debt of £7 billion. In the rest of the EC, where common agricultural policy reforms and the 260 pieces of legislation affecting farmers that have been swiftly imposed here are being much more slowly and carefully applied (if at all), there are still ten million farmers.

The bureaucratic pencil, wielded with such zeal by Mrs Shephard's own officials and the swarms of busy young environmental health officers whose profession is the only real rural growth area, is probably the biggest single cause of their distress.

Ask the agriculture ministry if it has any bright ideas for improving the situation, and you will be referred to the health department, whose solution is... a survey of rural stress. A survey, God help us! Another pile of forms to fill in, right after the excruciatingly complex and time-consuming IACS (Integrated Administration and Control System) which made strong men sit and weep among the cauliflower stems as they wondered how the hell they were going to get every field, every hedge, every pylon and pipeline mapped, measured and categorised in three weeks flat at the busiest time of year.

No, Mrs Shephard, I don't think that survey is going to stay the suicidal hand of the small hill farmer with three children who swallowed enough pride to enquire about Family Credit only to find that benefits officers cannot understand farm accounts and therefore ruled him ineligible. Just consider for a moment why a farmer might be miserable. Yes, yes, I know that farmers are never satisfied, that they've had subsidies and cheap fuel for years, that their image remains as George Crabbe described it 200 years ago: "Our farmers round, well pleased with constant gain, / Like other farmers, flourish and complain."

And yes, I know they are responsible for 20 per cent of our water pollution, and God alone knows the full truth of the effects on us all of the pesticides and hormones they have been using. Many people see mad cow disease as a judgment on the farmers. Well now, wouldn't you be miserable if that was what the world

thought of you? And wouldn't you be bitter as well as miserable to be thought so ill of when in any other industry you would be fêted for your phenomenal productivity record? Even if you weren't broke, might not your self-esteem be just a little shaky?

You are broke, however, and you cannot imagine how things are going to get any better. The old-fashioned bank manager who lent you all that money has been replaced by a hard-faced young man whose job it is to get it back.

Interest rates have come down, but the damage was done when they were high. You've been ordered to install a slurry stall that will cost £50,000. Ten years ago you were getting £130 a tonne for your cider apples, and you ploughed back your profits in the shape of thousands of young trees. Last year you got £106 a tonne. In real terms, that £130 of ten years ago would be £221. Naturally your costs have risen, but you can see no way of cutting them further. How is it that every other country in the world seems able to produce apples more cheaply than you can?

Townie talk of over-use of pesticides is absurd now that you eke out anything that has to be paid for. Labour costs went long ago: the only labour is your own, and all you can see is that you're putting in a damn sight more of it in return for a damn sight less. The ulcer and the damaged back constitute your 1992 bonus.

Having nobody to talk to makes the whole picture blacker. Gilmour Evans, the NFU chairman in Montgomeryshire, caught the mood when he said: "Farmers are fighters, but when you don't know what to fight, you get afraid. You don't know where to run, so you sit at home and fear."

Mr Evans set up one of the regional telephone helplines that are being tried here and there to put depressed farmers in touch with the Samaritans and Citizens' Advice Bureaux. He doesn't know whether it is helping much though.

Another farmer in the neighbourhood killed himself last week, and he fears the latest floods could be the last straw for others. Farming is a desperately lonely business these days. My childhood memories of a smallish Somerset farm are suffused with a schmalzy golden glow of shared endeavour, chatter and general busyness. Haymaking in the 1950s was like a scene from *Thomas Hardy*. We had seven men round the breakfast table every morning, and when my father got in a panic about something, as he often did, he could turn either to his own father or a few farms away or to his wise, ever-calm foreman.

Farmers met in the market every Saturday and reminded each other that theirs was a wonderful way of life, and weren't they all so fortunate to be their own bosses. They went to the races, watched the cricket, met for a drink together and wove unsteadily home, their cars scraping the hedges all the way. Another country.



MARGOT NORMAN

Matthew d'Ancona meets Jimmy Carter, soft speaker with no need of a big stick

## What Jimmy did next

The man from Plains, Georgia, sweeps into the room wearing exactly the same smile he wore when he limped from the Oval Office in 1981. But even then, with his dream in ruins, Jimmy Carter managed to summon up the world's most famous grin.

Twelve years later, he is in Vienna as a distinguished guest of the United Nations Human Rights Conference, the biggest jamboree ever held in the name of freedom, to which 5,000 delegates and 1,300 non-governmental organisations have flocked this week. A few months into the Clinton administration, everyone wants to know whether the former president thinks his youthful successor is making the same mistakes he did. On the contrary: Mr Carter thinks President Clinton isn't being Carterite enough.

The United States is making a very serious mistake in not dealing with Cuba," he says. "I think we should open

**I don't think that the protection of human rights has improved in the past ten or twelve years'**

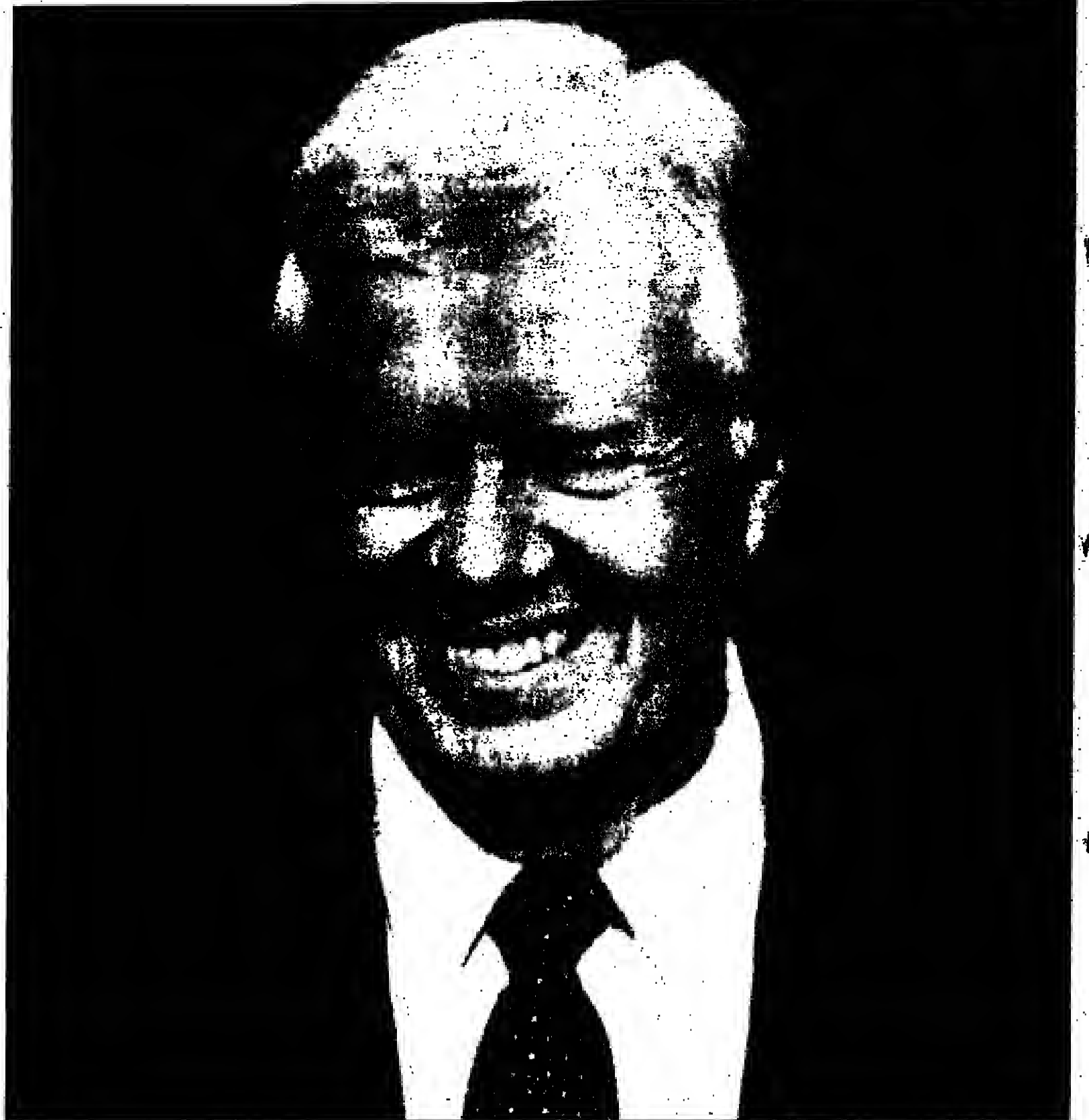
up political avenues with Cuba." His rapprochement with Fidel Castro secured the release of 3,000 political prisoners, he points out, lamenting that Mr Clinton has instead thrown in his lot with the influential Cuban American lobby in Miami.

Indeed, Mr Carter cautions the tyro president that the plight of the 1,800 Cuban prisoners in America who have not been released because they are not American citizens could become a political embarrassment for the Democrats. "Democratisation and elections are not enough in my country," he says. "There are plenty of human rights violations going on within the United States."

And then there is Clinton policy on Haiti, the most conspicuous example of the new administration's failure to keep its campaign promises. Again, the former president is not impressed by his successor's actions. "When we impose a halfway blockade and don't impose a freeze on bank holdings, it only affects poor people," he says.

All in all, it is a less than flattering half-term report for the new boys in Washington: Mr Clinton, he concludes, must become "a much more vivid champion of human rights".

Ronald Reagan, by contrast, gets off surprisingly lightly in the Carter court. His policies in Central America "were not only mistakes, they were crimes", and Mr Carter awards his successor an uncompromising "F" for supporting the Contras. But President Reagan did some very strong things to protect democracy and human rights,"



Perhaps the most successful retired head of state in a generation: Jimmy Carter has found a demanding new role as a force for decency

he says. Mr Carter is almost neurotically even-handed.

Not all statesmen find life after power easy. But Mr Carter is perhaps the most successful retired head of state since Konrad Adenauer. The Carter Centre, from its headquarters in Atlanta, has become one of the most respected champions of human rights, disease eradication and child protection in the world, and frequently assists governments in the awkward transition to multi-party democracy.

In retirement, the former president has become what he never could be in office: the true force of decency in international life. In truth, the human rights supporters gathered in Vienna are all Carter's children, yet they appear to have turned against him. At a preliminary meeting on Saturday, Mr Carter was shouted down by a group of Latin Americans, and forced to cut short his speech. It was an alarming sign of the threat this conference poses to the very principles of universal human rights and particularly to the inviolability of free speech. Privately, Mr Carter was said to have been dismayed. On the record, of course, he is all smiles and diplomacy.

"I don't have any objections to participants voicing their

objections. There are people who have very different views about what should be done about human rights." Third world countries, he suggests, tend automatically to blame Americans for the human rights violations of recent times. "I don't think that the protection of human rights has improved in the past ten or twelve years," he says, dissenting sharply from Western orthodoxy. There is no focus

for human rights investigations." Like Amnesty International and many of the delegates in Vienna, he supports "the escalation in status of the director of the UN Human Rights Centre in Geneva. The title of Commissioner would be advantageous because it identifies an individual whom any person on earth would be able to turn to... I think the funding would be forthcoming if the leaders

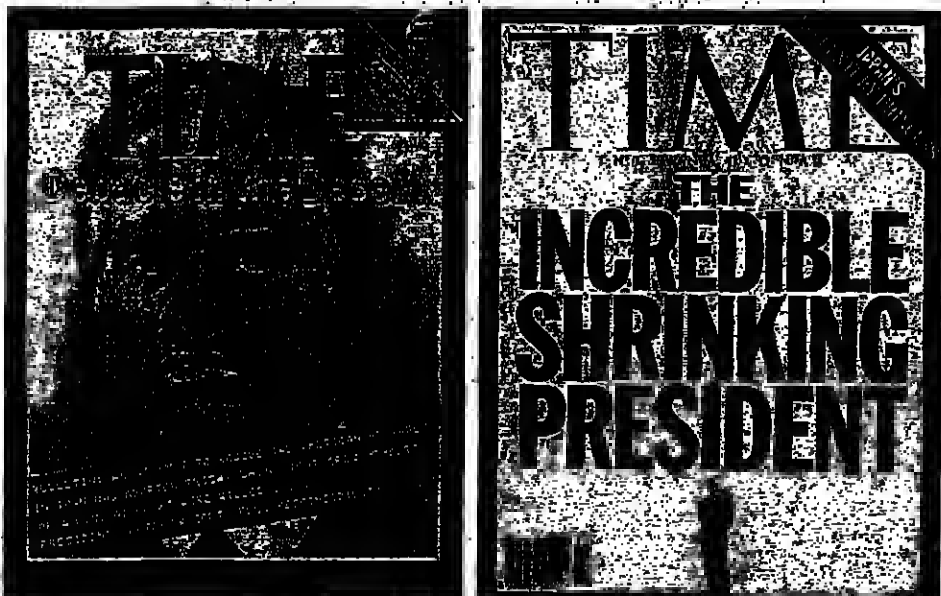
of the world were confident that it was going to be a strong office." Typically, he immediately offers his fund-raising services. But Western officials at the conference warn that bold new institutions are unlikely to emerge from this cacophonous gathering.

Like all fallen leaders, Mr Carter is keen to defend his past and keep posterity sweet. Was he right to normalise relations with Peking in Janu-

ary 1979, given that so many goods imported from China are now known to have been manufactured in slave labour camps? Suddenly, the human rights idealism turns State Department pragmatism. "This is a very difficult issue to address," the basic question is what is best done to increase the human rights status in China. Is it best to isolate China? With the demise or retirement of the octogenarians, I expect a more open political society.

Mr Carter still plays the role of statesman as Everyman convincingly. He says he should be in Chicago watching his eldest grandson graduate from high school; when asked about the Dalai Lama's exclusion from the conference, he muses gently on a Sunday they spent together, "in my living room in Plains".

It is all disarmingly frank. "Always a pleasure to talk to *The Times*," he says as he gets up to go. But before I have time to reply, he has left the room, an avuncular arm around a minute Panamanian, who cannot believe that the man who wouldn't let Manuel Noriega near the White House is now talking to him. "You're from Panama? That's great, man. We're going there next month. Where do you live? Maybe we'll see you."



Criticism in common: Time magazine records the low points for Mr Carter and Mr Clinton

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**Making Quality a Reality**

## Why big is no longer beautiful

THE backlash against breast implant surgery is growing across America. According to reports out this week, at least 30,000 women have had silicone implants removed following health scares about them.

Many women are now declaring publicly that small breasts are a small price to pay for safety. Last year, the American Food and Drug Administration banned the sale of silicone breast implants because of suspicions that they could cause painful autoimmune diseases such as arthritis. In a number of cases, implants have burst, leaking silicone into the body. In others, the tissue round the silicone has hardened, leaving women with breasts which look and feel like half grapefruits.

Plastic surgeons report a growing trade in removals or "explantations", costing about \$5,000 (£3,300) — almost twice the price of augmentation surgery. The breasts sometimes turn out slightly smaller than they were naturally, since skin stretched by the silicone bags must be removed. Long-term studies of the safety of implants are still being conducted.

Although only 2 per cent of the 1.5 million American implant patients

**Women in America are deciding that breast implants are not worth the risk**

have had the silicone removed, the Command Trust Network — a support group for women with implants — says that it receives up to 75 calls a week from women, nearly all of whom opt for explantation. The television talk show host Jenny Jones has gone public about how much happier she is with her smaller chest size — a 36AA compared with a 36B — having had her implants removed. They had been causing her a great deal of pain.

Dolly Parton, the country and western singer famed for her *embo-paint*, has always denied having had implants but admits to undergoing "reconstruction work" after losing weight. However, a 30-year-old Los Angeles actress, who had augmentation surgery in 1986, told *The New York Times* recently that her implants had been removed five months ago. The actress, who did not want to be named, said she believed that the augmentation had helped her career. She said the implants were removed

not because she had any pain, but because she was worried by the safety aspect. "I basically have the same breasts I started out with but with lines all over them," she said.

Those who still want larger breasts are being offered implants filled with saline solution, but even these are being studied by the Food and Drug Administration. Some surgeons are also replacing implants with tissue from the buttocks or abdomen. All implants, however, interfere with mammograms for breast cancer.

This being America, almost everyone is set to make money out of the latest scare. The surgeons are advertising the explantation operation, and lawyers are gearing up to sue doctors and the manufacturers of the silicone bags. A year ago, a woman won \$7.34 million (£4.9 million) from the implant manufacturer Dow Corning, after her silicone bags burst. The company is appealing.



Be yourself: women have stopped trying to emulate Dolly Parton

KATE MUIR

صلى الله عليه وسلم



# Which twin won in the womb?

Your first nine months may be as vital as your genetic make-up. Aileen Ballantyne on the latest nature-nurture debate

For centuries, scientists have tried to find the answer to the most basic question about mankind: what makes us who we are? Is it the unique and inevitable combination of our genes that determines our health and personality, or is it our environment?

It is a fascination that predates modern genetics. In *The Tempest*, Prospero describes Caliban as "A devil, a born devil, on whose nature Nurture can never stick". Identical twins, created from the division of a single fertilised egg, have long been seen by researchers as nature's own experiment. But although they share exactly the same genes, new research shows they may be totally different in important ways from the very moment they are born because of the effect of the earliest possible environmental influence: their mother's womb.

In the past few weeks, in the pages of *The Lancet*, the whole validity of twin studies — on which much of our knowledge of genetic influence depends — has been heatedly debated. The controversy follows an article by Dr David Phillips, consultant physician at Southampton general hospital specialising in metabolic disease. Dr Phillips argues that the assumption, based on twin studies, that many illnesses, such as strokes and heart disease, late onset diabetes, allergies and high blood pressure, are largely genetic, may be wrong. He points out that propensity to all these diseases is now known to be affected by poor prenatal environment, and that in such diseases this is far more important than the idea of "disease genes".

Adverse prenatal conditions and low birth weights are particularly common for identical twins. The reason, he says, is that two-thirds of identical twins share a placenta. The twins compete for a limited supply of nutrients. In some cases,

sharing a placenta can also lead to a syndrome known as "twin transfusion" in which blood slowly leaks from one twin to the other, producing one large twin and another smaller, anaemic twin.

"Twin studies may have misled us into believing in a genetic origin of many diseases," Dr Phillips concludes.

Independently of this debate, in a book published yesterday, (*The Language of the Genes*, HarperCollins, £16.99) the leading geneticist Professor Steve Jones, of University College, London, highlights the problem of adverse prenatal factors in twins and also emphasises that the experience of being a twin may itself influence behaviour. Professor Jones, whose own mother was an identical twin, says these factors may well cause problems even in the newer twin studies.

Many of the older studies attempted — often using doubtful methods — to compare the small number of identical twins separated at birth and reared, in the best traditions of romantic fiction, by completely different families. Most newer twin studies — such as one now being conducted at the Institute of Psychiatry — compare identical twins with ordinary fraternal twins born from two separate fertilised eggs. If both sets of twins are brought up within their own families, and the identical twins have a greater resemblance to each other than the fraternal twins, then genes play a more important part.

This approach has had many successes, but it has also had problems, particularly where behaviour is concerned. There is, for example, a greater incidence of mental illness in identical twins. Professor Jones says — but this may well be a result either of behaviour, or, indeed, being born an identical twin rather

than a singleton. "The very fact of being identical twins — perhaps called Rosy and Posy and dressed in identical clothes — may predispose to mental disease," he says.

Against that, Professor Jones says, some of the newer twin studies are showing "quite convincingly" that some traits of personality, such as aggressiveness and introversion, do have a genetic component. But, once again, nurture cannot be discarded. An intrinsically aggressive man, for example may be calm, "until he is given a chance to express his genotype by joining the army."

But it may be that such opportunities for expression of an inherent genetic characteristic come even earlier for twins if the latest ultrasound "films" of twins developing in the womb are to be believed. Dr Elizabeth Bryan, consultant paediatrician at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London, and medical director of the Multiple Births Foundation, says that in some

cases, in response to the "crowding" common to many twins in the womb, one becomes the aggressor and the other the passive recipient. A few studies which have then followed the twins through after birth have shown that these traits continue.

Dr Bryan, whose job involves seeing twins regularly in her clinic, emphasises that "labelling" in early life can also have an effect. If, for example, one is seen as the tidy one, the other the untidy one, their behaviour tends to reinforce the labels. In one recent case, she said, one twin was born with an extremely flattened head — which eventually normalised — due to the position of the other during their nine months in the womb. "His twin had been sitting on him throughout the whole pregnancy — we just don't know what that does to you psychologically."

In recent years, well-designed

twin studies in America and Sweden, which have followed twins separated at birth, claim that 78 per cent of the variations in intelligence among populations is due to genes. The results have apparently been verified by comparing the IQs of children brought up together in the same families who are not related because some of them are adopted. The researchers found no significant similarity in IQs.

Professor Jones concedes that such studies suggest an inherited component in IQ, but adds: "The only thing IQ tests do is to measure your ability to do IQ tests."

Scientists hope to isolate every single one of the 100,000 genes in the human body by the end of this century. It will be possible to learn — if we wish to know — what we are most likely to die from and what genetic tendencies we may have inherited. It is reassuring to know that something as simple as your position in the womb may have an equally important effect.



Lookalikes: Identical twins, with the same genes and upbringing, are helping to solve a scientific puzzle

## Parents need not live in fear

Why the case of a wrong diagnosis of bone cancer is unlikely to be repeated

The case of the Birmingham boy who underwent several courses of chemotherapy — an always distressing and occasionally hazardous treatment — for what was thought to be bone cancer but later proved to be a benign lesion, will have worried parents who have children undergoing similar therapy. However, a system of cross-checking is well established in all reputable units and cases of misdiagnosis must be rare. Even in the case of the Birmingham boy, regrettable as it is, the system to some extent worked, albeit belatedly, for the mistake was discovered when the original slides were re-checked by another pathologist.

The most common malignant bone tumour is the osteogenic sarcoma, which characteristically affects ten to 20-year-olds. It once had a very poor prognosis but now, with the advent of chemotherapy, more than 50 per cent of patients survive, as in the well-known case of Ted Kennedy's oldest son, Ted Kennedy Jr.

In over half the cases, malignant bone tumours affect the area around the knee but any bone can be involved.

Osteogenic sarcomas are comparatively rare, even rarer are other malignant tumours such as chondro sarcomas, fibro sarcomas and Ewing's (round cell) bone tumours.

The exact nature of the Birmingham patient's trouble has not been disclosed.

Professor Sir Colin Berry, the director of the department of morbid anatomy at the Royal London Hospital, said: "Mothers can be assured that any anxieties they have of a repeat of this are misplaced. Because bone tumours are comparatively rare, and because there are many benign conditions which can simulate them, or, above all, inflammatory reactions following minor injuries, it is not a diagnosis which would be made by one person alone in most units.

The microscopic slide will be seen by other experts and so second and third opinions will routinely be obtained. Most pathologists, too, will comment only after having seen the X-rays and having made a careful review of the patient's case history.

Sir Colin was optimistic about the choice of Dr Archie Malcolm, of the North of England Bone Registry, to head the review of the Birmingham incident. "He has enormous experience of bone tumours and their diagnoses and is skilled in working with panels of pathologists."

Although most units have a cross-checking system operating like that at the Royal London Hospital, mistakes have occurred. In a notorious incident some years ago in Scandinavia, one series of cases seemed to have a particularly high rate of recovery from osteogenic sarcoma. Only later, after very careful review, was it realised that some of the "cured" patients had never had cancer in the first place.

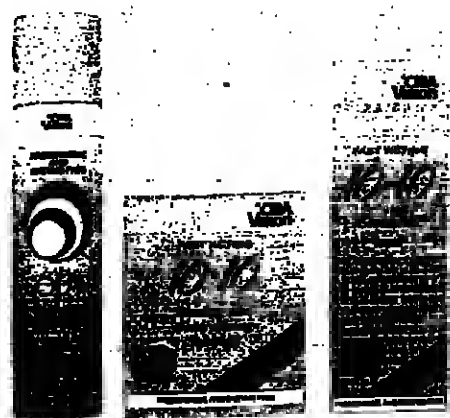
The earlier the diagnosis of a bone tumour the greater the chance that a patient will survive. The rule is that if there is persistent or progressive pain, or tenderness, in a bone or joint — particularly when associated with a swelling — it must be investigated and thought of as a possible tumour until it is proved otherwise. The greatest risk to a patient is not the very occasional misdiagnosis by a pathologist but tumours which are left without investigation until the diagnosis is all too obvious.

Collecting a specimen for biopsy has to be done with considerable attention to detail. Aspiration biopsies, in which cells are removed through a needle, is not always suitable for a bone tumour and mistakes have arisen because too few cells were collected to make microscopic examination accurate. Open biopsy, in which an incision is made, is the preferred method of most



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## RIGHTS FOR ALL

The West must keep the beacon of human rights aflame

The United Nations World Conference on Human Rights, which opened yesterday in Vienna, seemed a marvellous idea when preparations were launched in 1990. Political and economic freedoms had made huge advances in the late 1980s, transforming the political complexion of Latin America, parts of Asia and even of Africa. In Eastern Europe, the iron curtain had collapsed and new democracies were shaking off communism. There was unprecedentedly wide government acceptance of the principle, laid down in 1948 in the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that a state's respect for the rights of the individual was a legitimate international concern. The time seemed right for a commemorative conference, 45 years later, to strengthen the UN's weak machinery for holding governments to their obligations.

These high hopes for a new global approach to strengthen the protection of human rights have been severely jolted even before debate is joined. Largely thanks to the UN's system of preparing for such global gatherings through its regional groups, the north-south confrontations which did so much in the 1970s to discredit the UN are resurfacing. The Vienna conference must at the very least preserve the gains of the past 45 years. The altered international mood should enable it to do better if Western governments, most of which are paying too little attention to this conference, put greater weight behind the defence of liberty.

The Asian group is planning an assault on the universal ideal which underpins the entire UN system for protecting human rights. As usual, this is the work of a small number of countries, but it includes, disturbingly, not only such systematic violators of the most basic individual freedoms as China, Burma, Iraq and Syria but moderate offenders such as Malaysia and Indonesia — who claim that their prosperity proves them right in systematically putting the rights of society before the

rights of the individual. The Asians are simply putting a new slant on claims which are as dreadfully familiar as they can be made superficially seductive. Governments have sought over the years to deflect scrutiny of their internal affairs by arguing that the concept of individual rights is not universal, but a distinctive outgrowth of Western history which is inapplicable to other cultures where the rights of the group and the tradition of consensus is stronger.

In Vienna, there will even be a fresh assault on the principle of the free exchange of knowledge — declared by the UN in 1946 to be "the touchstone of all the freedoms to which the UN is consecrated". The Vienna draft implies that the free flow of information should be allowed only if it is "objective, responsible and impartial", provisions which allow almost unlimited scope for censorship.

A second line of attack against individual rights is that bread must come before freedom, development before democracy and that civil rights are a meaningless abstraction unless allied to society's needs for peace, disarmament or a clean planet. To the peasant without civil rights who cannot make his needs known or call his government to account, the right to development may be the more meaningful abstraction. Such arguments serve despots well.

Even China, Peking should be reminded, has a saying: "under Heaven, one family." Yesterday, Warren Christopher and the UN secretary-general, Boutros Boutros Ghali, came spiritedly to the defence of what Dr Boutros Ghali insists are fundamental standards to be observed "across the lines of culture, faith and state". In the 1970s, when the West was a beleaguered minority at the UN, its governments resigned themselves time after time to defeat. To the great detriment of people in the developing world, the results were the UN's "new orders" for information and the international economy. At Vienna, the West should resist the temptation to seek consensus at the expense of principle.

## TURKEY'S THATCHER

Mrs Ciller belongs to a new, thoroughly modern generation

Even today the election of a woman prime minister is an unusual event. The election of Tansu Ciller to head the government in Turkey is significant for another reason: it marks the transfer of power to a new generation in Turkish politics. Her victory over two others — one strongly favoured by President Demirel, her predecessor in the office — is the more surprising because the American-educated economics professor is a relative newcomer to politics. Excluding Benazir Bhutto, whose support in Pakistan depends largely on her father's name, this is the first time that a Muslim, albeit secular, country has chosen a female prime minister.

Comparisons with Baroness Thatcher have helped. Lady Thatcher's reputation remains high in the Islamic world, and has done as much to encourage the acceptance of women in public life as it has to win backing for robust beliefs in the market. Mrs Ciller believes the state must be cut back, inflation and the public deficit brought under control and privatisation increased. So far the government has failed to achieve its economic targets. This will be her first challenge, but she faces many others.

Turkey is engaged in almost open warfare with the Kurdish guerrilla insurgency, blighting hopes of regional development in the Kurdish-dominated south-east. She will be hard-pressed to keep together her unstable coalition of the True Path and Social Democrat Populist parties, and must exploit her charisma to the full to impose discipline on the bickering right. Above all

she must convince an angry public that she has the determination to protect Turkish and Muslim interests in both Germany and Bosnia, where a burning sense of injustice has made the need for statesmanship vital and difficult. She has already announced that she will begin immediate talks with Bonn on the treatment of Turks in Germany.

Turkey's pivotal role in the post-communist Balkans and Central Asia has made Turkey a Nato partner whose importance has, if anything, increased after the collapse of communism. Turkey offers a model of a secular, market-oriented democracy that is in competition with Iran's Islamic dictatorship for influence in huge tracts of the former Soviet Union. Turkey can do much to broker peace in the Transcaucasus. And it has a legitimate interest in the stable development of its Balkan neighbours, former provinces of its own Ottoman empire. So far Greek fears of any Turkish role in the area have proved unfounded: Turkey has been a restraining influence.

By 1995 Turkey will have a full customs union with the European Community. That should smooth the prickly political relationship between the two. The danger has always been that, rebuffed in its application for full EC membership, Turkey would turn its back on Europe and the West. Under President Demirel and Mrs Ciller, that is unlikely. The forces of obscurantist Islamic fundamentalism have not been fully defeated; but Mrs Ciller represents a new generation of Young Turks whose time has come.

## OUTPOSTS OF EMPIRE

At last, we poor Britons are learning how the EC lives

Today's report on recent goings on at the European Community's London office is something of an eye-opener. The imperial capital of the European empire has sometimes seemed very far away. Tales of glittering Brussels decadence have for long brightened the lives of Euro-citizens, but we British have played scant part in them. Little did us provincials from this foggy, northern backwater realise that we, too, could share in the brilliant vices of the new Rome.

Enviously, we have watched as billions worth of bogus subsidies (ECU, Brune?) were dished out to the undeserving of the continent. Amazed, we have viewed the high drama of Italian civil servants of the Commission, with interests in the tobacco industry and interesting connections in Palermo, jumping out of the Berlaymont building's windows. Awestruck, we have watched as Brussels passed regulation after regulation dictating higher standards of hygiene, safety at work and honest dealing only to see those regulations flagrantly flouted by every petty authority on the shores of the Mediterranean. For years our provincial politicians and civil servants could only aspire to dine at top table at "the heart of Europe", forced to remain mere voyeurs at this Neronic banquet. The alleged maladministration of the EC's London office shows that some of us at least may have learned to be true Europeans.

The foundation of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development gave us the first intimation that Britain was no longer to be cut off from these continental ways. Just as Augustus boasted in his

testament that he had found Rome built in brick and remade it in marble so Jacques Attali, the EBRD director, lavishly adorned our humble provincial capital. M Attali saw that the portals of the London headquarters of the EBRD were built in marble; and had them rebuilt in even more expensive marble.

The office of the European Commission is supposed to represent the Commission's interests in Britain, explain its policies to the voters and report back on British attitudes to the Commission. But the report cites damaging instances of chaotic organisation, poorly conducted meetings, unnecessary paperwork and failure either to answer a telephone or to communicate with outposts of the EC beyond Hadrian's Wall. In vain the report belabours the ramblings of official meetings, the absence of honest debate, and above all, the reluctance of staff to spread the good news about Europe beyond a narrow circle of fellow enthusiasts.

The Bonn and Paris offices of the Commission, however, are, according to our Brussels masters, far more efficient and zealous in their mission than lackadaisical London. This gives us grounds for hope. The report indicates that because of our obstinacy and the wilful adherence of the majority to its native culture, the Eurocrats in London have been driven to drink. Thus did the governors of Judea reach for a glass of strong wine after a fruitless day persuading the people that Roman civilisation was superior. And when Roman emperors, tired of the endless border conflicts across the Channel, took their troops out of Britain, they probably raised a glass too.

## Renewed threat to cancer hospital

From Lord Boyd-Carpenter and others

Sir, We are dismayed and confused to learn that the Royal Marsden Hospital is yet again under threat of closure by the Department of Health. This is despite successfully convincing the Secretary of State last February against adopting the proposal in the Tomlinson report to close it and relocate it within Charing Cross Hospital (report, February 17).

The specially reviews, set up by Virginia Bottomley in the wake of the Tomlinson report, have been examining the provision of specialist treatment in London, including cancer.

It appears that, despite the compelling arguments against moving the Royal Marsden into Charing Cross (based on the massive costs of the exercise, the loss of facilities, the threat to the high standards of research and the cut in beds) — all of which helped to persuade Mrs Bottomley against the move — we are now back to square one. Indeed the specially reviews have gone further than Tomlinson, threatening the Royal Marsden's Sutton hospital with closure and relocation to St George's.

The arguments which saved the Royal Marsden Hospital in February remain as valid today as they did then. We cannot understand why the Tomlinson proposal, so roundly rejected then, is now being resurrected, unless there is a hidden agenda at work. Could it be that the North West Thames Regional Health Authority, which always openly supported the plan to close the Royal Marsden, is trying to hijack the specially reviews to achieve its own ends, despite Mrs Bottomley's decision in February?

We would therefore urge the Secretary of State to reject once again these ill-founded proposals.

Yours faithfully,  
BOYD-CARPENTER,  
LIMERICK,  
STOCKTON,  
TONYPANDY,  
House of Lords,  
June 14.

## Transport, 40 years on

From Mr B. J. Goodchild

Sir, Your leader, "Forty years on" (May 31), overlooks an important aspect of life in Britain where the picture is markedly worse now than it was in Coronation year: public transport.

In the 1950s it was possible to reach the most remote parts of the country without a car. If you could not travel all the way on the pre-Beeching railway, there was a good chance that you could catch a bus to your final destination.

Nowadays many villages, some even within the green belt around London, see only a handful of buses per week, if any. For many journeys, whether by bus or train, Sunday is in effect a no-go day.

It is not good enough to dismiss this as mere nostalgia. Many of us without personal transport have suffered much reduced standards of mobility, if not real hardship.

A fair and rational society, especially one faced with the steadily mounting congestion and pollution caused by cars, would have rewarded and encouraged non-motorists by making public transport more attractive instead of less.

Yours faithfully,  
BARRY GOODCHILD,  
36 Hinton Road,  
Wallingford, Surrey,  
June 1.

From Major R. J. de V. Wade (RE, ret'd)

Sir, Our Oxfordshire village is not enjoying its taste of transport privatisation, with different companies competing for the same business.

The 12-mile road from Faringdon to Swindon is now served by three bus companies, none of which will accept competitors' return tickets, and all of whose buses are running so empty that they can hardly be considered very profitable.

And I am quite unable to produce a simple summary of their timetables for our parish magazine.

Yours sincerely,  
JAMES WADE  
(Parish transport representative),  
9 Catherine Close,  
Shirvill, Oxfordshire,  
June 1.

## The taste is sour

From Mr Burton-Winner

Sir, John Burton-Race, chef at L'Ortolan in Shiffield, Berkshire, shows what his customers can expect if they dare not to like his food ("Dish of the Day", Weekend, June 5).

You report him saying he did me "a favour" by letting me into his restaurant and that I then asked for a larger table and showed off all over the place. I did ask for a larger table because the table I had was both small and very wobbly. After that I sat quietly (too quietly) and ate food I didn't care for.

Yours sincerely,  
MICHAEL WINNER,  
6-8 Sackville Street, W1,  
June 9.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

## Rejection of Tory student poll result

From Mr Gawain Towler and others

Sir, What price "one member one vote" in the Conservative party? Mr Major's views on democracy within the Labour party have been belied by his own chairman, Sir Norman Fowler, and his deputy chairman, Gerry Malone. The occasion was the appointment last week of the national director of the Conservative Collegiate Forum (report, later editions, June 11).

An election/consultation process was set up in which each branch of the CCF was allowed to express an opinion as to the choice of director. Votes were discounted, branches were denied their say, the schedule abandoned and the result suppressed.

Despite this, a clear and substantial majority of the votes counted (23 branches to 16, representing about 3,200 and 2,200 members respectively) were cast for Conor Burns of Southampton University.

Conor has a splendid record of commitment and achievement on behalf of the party, and no one has questioned his competence. He has, however, made clear his support for a referendum on the Maastricht treaty and we believe this has disqualified him from office.

Conor Burns's view of Europe is that which is supported by the entire Conservative party: free trading,

decentralised, democratic and non-federal. His crime was to have disagreed with the government over whether Maastricht was a step towards or away from such a Europe.

The fact of his non-appointment, in violation of the democratic process, shows not only that the Conservative party will brook no dissent, but that it will never forgive or tolerate those who have dissented in the past.

We are not content to hold office in a party which combines such venal intolerance with such open disregard for the views of its own membership. We have therefore resigned from our positions in the CCF.

Yours sincerely,  
GAWAIN TOWLER  
(Yorkshire area chairman, CCF),  
SIMON BROWN  
(East Midlands area chairman),  
GAYLE GANDER  
(Deputy national director),  
DAN HANNAN  
(Deputy national director),  
MARK SMY  
(Western area chairman),  
IAN WRIGHT  
(West Midlands area chairman),  
CHRISTEN THOMSON  
(President, Oxford University  
Conservative Association),  
Derwent College,  
University of York, Heslington, York,  
June 14.

## Stonehenge versus traffic needs

From Professor D. R. Harris, President of the Prehistoric Society

Sir, Dr Paul Ashbee's concern (letter, June 4) at the "protracted silence of the archaeological bodies... regarding the further butchery of Stonehenge's supportive landscape" ignores the strong representations this society, and other organisations, are making to the Department of Transport.

That department should be congratulated on the new spirit of consultation, in which it has invited comments on possible routes for the A303. Our council has considered the department's proposals and has concluded that neither of the main alternative routes is archaeologically acceptable.

The department's brochure says the essential problem is the increase in traffic. However, we see a more fundamental problem. We believe that archaeology should be the overriding consideration. Each of the proposed routes will inflict unacceptable damage on a rich and irreplaceable archaeological landscape.

Nor can the scheme be sensibly considered in isolation from the English Heritage-National Trust initiatives, particularly their proposal to close the A344 — which passes even closer to Stonehenge on the north side — and the proposed new visitor centre.

The coincidence of the A303 and English Heritage schemes provides an opportunity to take an imaginative, long-term view about the conservation of Stonehenge and its surrounding archaeological landscape. We should seize this opportunity to create a national archaeology park that will ensure the preservation — and appreciation — of Stonehenge in its setting. If this necessitates a return to the drawing board for the Department of Transport, so be it.

Our descendants will not forgive us if we lose this unique opportunity to preserve and enhance this national treasure.

Yours faithfully,  
D. R. HARRIS,  
President, The Prehistoric Society,  
Institute of Archaeology,  
University College London,  
31-34 Gordon Square, WCI,  
June 9.

## Sunday trading

From Dr Michael Schluter

Sir, To remove any doubts about attitudes to Sunday trading (report, June 1) Keep Sunday Special (KSS) and the Retailers for Shops Act Reform (RSAR) have so far had almost identical proposals. One significant difference is that RSAR, whose option the government has included, wants to see all shops able to open for four Sundays before Christmas. Yet this amendment to the KSS option could easily have been introduced at the committee stage of the bill.

The other difference is protection for all shop workers, including those in Scotland, and a guarantee of double time for Sunday work in retailing. Already 259 MPs have indicated their support for the KSS model.

Yours truly,  
MICHAEL SCHLUTER  
(Director, Keep Sunday Special Campaign),  
Jubilee House,  
3 Hooper Street, Cambridge,  
June 1.

## Task for British Jews

From the Earl of Selborne

Sir, If Jews in Britain are an anxious community ("One family of God", June 3) it is in part because they are held to be associated with the policies of successive Israeli governments. This is clearly unreasonable, but British Jews would command wide respect if they campaigned for an equitable solution to the Palestinian problem.

The Arab population in Israel is surely entitled to own and farm land without threat of confiscation. This right is denied to many Arab communities. British Jews must seek to persuade the Israeli people that national security cannot be achieved by denying the rights of a minority.

Yours faithfully,  
SELBORNE,  
House of Lords.

## Out of control

From Mrs Vera Posner

Sir, The adage that you cannot fool all of the people all of the time has been confounded by the kitchen-unit manufacturers. Having recently, through moving house, acquired an ultra-modern kitchen, I had it altered to incorporate an old-fashioned, walk-in pantry, lined with shelves. No longer do I need to spend my days either down on my knees or up a ladder in order to reach into my cupboards.

Modern kitchen units cater for a population who believe aesthetic appearance to be more important than practicality, and many present-day commodities have followed the same irritating trend — e.g., the elimination of controls on television sets. How sad.

Yours faithfully,  
V. POSNER,  
39 Moor Crescent, Gosforth,  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

## How to know what we are eating

From Ms Margaret Murray

Sir, The call in your leading article ("The food we eat", June 7) for tougher, clearer laws about what information should be provided on food labels may give the impression that the laws in this area are not already strict. In fact, under the food labelling regulations, unless a food has a name which is prescribed by law (e.g., margarine) or is the subject of a customary name (e.g., pasta) the name used for the product must be

sufficiently precise to inform a purchaser of the true nature of the food and to enable the food to be distinguished from products with which it could be confused and, if necessary, shall include a description of its use.

Wherever name is used it should be readily understood by the consumer, as well as being a proper description of the food and attractive to the purchaser.

The Food Law Group has advocated the use of special courts to consider food law and consumer protection. These would assist in the development of consistent and widely applied decisions which would benefit both industry and consumers. In my view such courts should be independent to achieve proper balance.

Yours faithfully,  
MARGARET MURRAY  
(Chairman), Food Law Group,  
41 Alexandra Road,  
Wimbledon, SW19,  
June 8.

From the Director of the National Consumer Council

Sir, The National Consumer Council strongly endorses your view that we urgently need new regulations on food labelling, so that consumers can tell what they are eating.

If shoppers buy a slice of meat labelled ham or turkey, for instance, they tend to think that it is a slice cut from the bone — not something that may consist of gristle, gelatine, fat and bits of lean meat from different carcasses, all pulped together.

Mechanically recovered meat, which can be just as nutritious as meat cut from the bone, sometimes contains fat, and consumers trying to cut down on their fat intake need this information. Paradoxically, food manufacturers are not obliged to tell consumers, unless they are claiming that theirs is a low-fat product.

We believe that food manufacturers should come clean about what it is that they are selling. The sooner that new regulations come into force, obliging food labels to specify the percentages of different ingredients in food of all kinds, the better.

Yours faithfully,  
RUTH EVANS,  
Director,  
National Consumer Council,  
20 Grosvenor Gardens, SW1,  
June 8.

From Mr P. J. L. Lawrence

Sir, Tony Dawe's article (June 7) on chemical sprays on fruit describes

## Gormley as negotiator

From Lord Ezra

Sir, Joe Gormley's recent death (obituary, May 28) has been mourned by many, both inside and outside the coal industry. His period as president of the National Union of Mineworkers from 1971 to 1982 coincided with mine as chairman of the National Coal Board. We got to know each other well.

He was a shrewd union negotiator, but I also found him to be a warm-hearted enthusiast. He tried hard to avoid the strikes of 1972 and 1974. He willingly accepted the principle that the industry had to succeed so that the mineworkers could benefit.

The four or five years after the 1974 strike were a good period for coal. Supply and demand were roughly in balance, productivity improved and the industry made operating profits. Nonetheless, the NUM continued to put in excessively high wage demands

and these led to difficult negotiations. At the NCB we developed a tactic for fixing limits to which our negotiators could go and then leaving a small amount in reserve which I could offer as a last stage.

On one occasion Gormley came to my office for this final negotiation. We quickly settled and I thought he would go back to announce the result.

Instead he said that he could not possibly return after such a short interval. He would have to wait for at least 20 minutes to show that he had had a very tough argument. "So let's have a drink and talk about the weather," he said.

Yours faithfully,  
DEREK EZRA,  
House of Lords,  
June 8.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.







# OBITUARIES

## ALEC HORSLEY



Northern Foods is the largest fresh food manufacturer in Britain with sales of over £2,000 million and profits of over £150 million. It exists very much as its founder's monument — Horsley may have retired from the chairmanship in 1970, being succeeded in turn by his son and son-in-law — but he remained an active member of the board until 1987.

Alec Horsley, founder and life president of Northern Foods, died on June 11 aged 90. He was born on September 1, 1902.

Alec Horsley, the creator of one of Britain's most successful companies, was a highly unusual businessman. A consistent campaigner for left-wing and pacifist causes, he was far more at home on a CND march or at a New Statesman birthday celebration than he ever was among his fellow tycoons.

He was a generous contributor to various lost causes — being one of the principal investors in the ill-fated *News on Sunday* (of which a son was chairman) — and played his full part on what he and his friend Kingsley Martin would have called "the progressive wing of the Labour party". (Although never a particular admirer of Hugh Gaitskell or Harold Wilson, he was close to both Aneurin Bevan and Michael Foot.) In terms of the ability to make money combined with socialist conviction, the nearest parallel to him would probably have to be Sidney Bernstein, who died earlier this year — although, given that Horsley's principal interest was always world peace, a closer comparison might be with the late American steel magnate, Cyrus Ea-

ton, founder of the Pugwash conferences.

Alec Stewart Horsley was born of Methodist stock in Ripley, Derbyshire. He went to school at St George's, Harpenden, going from there to Worcester College, Oxford, where he read mathematics. Immediately on coming down from the university — in an echo (conscious or not) of Leonard Woolf 20 years earlier — he joined the Colonial Service. He was to spend seven years in West Africa before returning to England in 1932 in order to get married.

His first move as an entrepreneur was to join his father who owned a small wholesale business in Hull, selling Dutch condensed milk to the North of England. After four years, however, he broke free of parental constraints and in 1937 established his own plant manufacturing condensed milk at Holme-on-Spalding Moor near York. He swiftly built up a successful and substantial dairy business, which eventually stretched down from the North to the Midlands reaching out as well to North Wales and even Northern Ireland.

At first known as Northern Dairies, the company changed its name to Northern Foods in 1972 (it had become a public company in 1956). By the 1970s it had extended its interests to

the cake, biscuit and chilled prepared food markets — being one of the largest suppliers to both Marks and Spencer and J. Sainsbury. Today

much as its founder's monument — Horsley may have retired from the chairmanship in 1970, being succeeded in turn by his son and son-in-law — but he remained an active member of the board until 1987.

No one who ever worked with him would be disposed to deny that he was a man who made his presence felt. He was a rugged individualist in the great Nonconformist tradition. Always ready to challenge the Establishment in the realm of public affairs, in business he tended to be an autocratic leader prepared to brook very little disagreement with his own views. His confident belief in the inherent wisdom of any strategy he proposed could make difficulties for his colleagues, but if he was a despot, he was certainly a benign one, who characteristically maintained a strong interest in the welfare of his employees well after he had formally retired.

In a firm now employing some 30,000 people — and with necessarily a growing number of pensioners — his influence was by no means a negligible one. Up to the moment of his death he was an active leader of the company's welfare movement.

Horsley was, however, much more than simply an enlightened businessman — there have been others of those

who never displayed his depth of political commitment. Throughout his life, he was a passionate supporter of radical causes and an unflinching defender of minorities. He campaigned against the Spanish fascists before the war and was an active member of Sir Richard Acland's Commonwealth party during the war.

Around this time, Horsley became a Quaker and he remained a stalwart member of the Hull Friends Meeting until the end of his life. He served as a Labour member on the city council in the late 1940s and was Sheriff of Hull in 1954.

He was a dedicated campaigner for peace and was one of the first to visit Communist China in the early 1950s with a church delegation. He was a founder member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in the late 1950s. Even in his eighties he could frequently be seen carrying out lonely vigils for peace at the Cenotaph in Hull.

His business and campaigning achievements were recognised by both Hull and Bradford universities awarding him honorary degrees, and by his old Oxford college, Worcester, making him an honorary fellow.

He was married for over 60 years to Susan, who survives him. He also leaves three sons and two daughters.

## NOEL WHITCOMB

Noel Whitcomb, newspaper columnist who brought the high life to millions, died on June 11 aged 73. He was born on Christmas Day, 1919.

FOR more than 30 years Noel Whitcomb was one of the most famous journalists in Britain. At one point his column appeared every day in the *Daily Mirror*, while he contributed with equal success to several women's magazines.

His picture was displayed on buses and hoardings all over the country with the slogan "Buy the *Daily Mirror* and go gay with Noel" — the times were more innocent then — and at the height of the *Mirror's* circulation more than five million people did that every day. He also founded and organised the *Daily Mirror* Punters' Club and was responsible for bringing on-course experience of racing to many thousands who had never been to a meeting before.

The Punters' Club provided the happiest phase of his career for, unknown to his readers, Whitcomb despised his style of journalism, disliked the *Mirror's* Labour politics and claimed to hate his publicity. He maintained that he only worked for the *Mirror* because of the high salary — he was certainly one of the best-paid journalists in Fleet Street — and his legendary expenses.

He once explained: "From the time I joined the *Daily Mirror* at ten guineas a week in the mid-1940s to the time in the late 1970s when the paper was paying out well over £150,000 a year to cushion my life from needless discomfort, and thereby ensure my continuing loyalty, I always felt that part of the money was compensation for living in a goldfish bowl." His verdict was that "most of the columns I wrote were as shallow as a puddle".

Whitcomb began his journalistic career with the cinema trade press during the war. After joining the *Mirror* as a general reporter he made his name with a typical tabloid story of the time: the discovery of a talking dog that appeared to speak well enough for the story to be followed up by all the rival papers.

Soon he had his own column and was mixing with the great and the famous. Unlike many columnists — he hated to be called a gossip columnist — he actually was on reasonably intimate terms with many of the subjects of his articles. He really did take the Shah of Iran night-climbing in Rome, he certainly advised Herbert Morrison personally about the Festival of Britain of 1951 and there is good reason to believe his claim that he was instrumental in the career switch which took Noel Coward to the Café de Paris and on to Las Vegas.

His most envied exclusive, however, came from one of the great romances of the 1950s when the youthful Jimmy Goldsmith, now Sir James Goldsmith, eloped with Isabel Patino, daughter of a Bolivian tin millionaire. Whitcomb had come to know the couple in Paris and when Patino forbade his daughter to marry she fled to London, was sheltered first in Whitcomb's house and then went into hiding in Scotland, where Whitcomb proudly helped to stage-manage their secret wedding.

His career, and his salary, moved steadily upwards until he was involved in a serious traffic accident after he had left his Paris hotel (which, typically, was the Ritz). It was thought he would never recover completely and he was offered a post on the *Mirror's* women's magazines. Only a few months later, however, he was well enough to be reassigned to the *Mirror*, though he was still writing for *Woman and Home*, for instance, more than 20 years later.

Now he was sent abroad on big international stories but not enough to satisfy him. "More often I was watching the old top hat and watching the stars go by," he complained in his autobiography. He was, therefore, delighted to be offered a transfer to the old IPC, pre-Murdoch *Sun* which had been created by the *Mirror* Group from the ruins of the loss-making *Daily Herald*. Whitcomb spent five years there, satisfied to be writing three times a week for a more up-market paper.

As the 1960s ended, however, the IPC *Sun* sank and Whitcomb was recalled to the *Mirror*. Bored with the prospect of years more of gala celebrations and royal weddings he had his great inspiration: a club for racing people who did not go racing. Intended as a mild circulation booster, the success of the Punters' Club amazed *Mirror* executives.

Its inauguration was pure Whitcomb — in the ballroom of the Dorchester Hotel, with



the Duke of Devonshire and other senior stewards of the Jockey Club present, and a letter of encouragement from the Queen Mother.

Soon there were 200,000 members. The club took punters by coachloads and trainloads to courses all over Britain. It gave ordinary readers the chance to experience the grandstand and Tattersalls, and the original misgivings of some leading racing figures were overcome as the punters arrived, properly dressed, prepared to enjoy a day out and, incidentally, spend a great deal of money. At one late summer Ascot meeting there was even a Punters' Club special enclosure — and that at the suggestion of the late Duke of Norfolk. The club started to own horses, first in Whitcomb's name and then in the name of the club when racing's rules changed. The punters went abroad — to Longchamps, to Bombay, to Caracas. At its peak there were 600,000 members.

Then Robert Maxwell arrived at the *Mirror*. He told Whitcomb he was costing the paper a million pounds a year. Whitcomb protested, disputed the figures, pointed out the club's publicity value to the paper but then decided not to argue. He wound up the club, completed his contract and retired. On that day he left the paper the doorman called out as usual: "Goodnight, Mr Whitcomb." But, as Whitcomb pointed out, nobody said goodbye.

He is survived by his wife Sally — they married in 1947 when they were both working on the *Mirror* — and by their daughter Kate.

### Madeleine Mainstone

WE HAVE been asked to point out that the development of the education programme at the Victoria and Albert Museum, culminating in the foundation of a separate education department in 1971, was primarily the work of Madeleine Mainstone, who died in 1979.

## DEKE SLAYTON

Donald Kent Slayton, American astronaut, died of brain cancer at his home in League City, Texas, on June 13 aged 69. He was born in Sparta, Wisconsin, on March 1, 1924.

DEKE SLAYTON was one of the seven original astronauts in the American space programme and took part in the rendezvous in space between US and Soviet spacecraft in 1975. By the time he made that journey Slayton was 51 years old and the oldest astronaut ever to participate in a space flight.

As one of the original "Mercury 7", picked by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in 1959 to pioneer manned flight in space, he had been scheduled to make the second orbital mission in 1962. But the detection of a minor heart ailment caused him to be grounded, and the mission was flown by Scott Carpenter.

Bitterly disappointed, Slayton resigned from the Air Force. He had been a pilot since joining up after graduating from high school in 1942, had flown B-29s in five combat missions over Europe and seven over Japan, and served as a fighter pilot in Korea and as an experimental test pilot at Edwards Air Force Base in California. Now, it seemed, his flying career was over.

But Slayton was not giving up. He rejoined NASA as a civilian and became director

of flight operations at the Johnson Space Centre. It was a role in which he probably exerted more influence over the American space programme than any other astronaut, becoming responsible for all astronaut training and selecting the crews for nearly every mission, including the moon landings.

Meanwhile the taciturn Slayton was working on his



own problem. He exercised daily, stopped smoking cigarettes and drinking coffee, and reduced his intake of alcohol drastically. By 1970 his heart fibrillation had ceased, and two years later he was restored to flight status by NASA, just in time to qualify for the last remaining seat on the Apollo-Soyuz mission. The historic US-Soviet link-up in space, yet to be repeated,

resulted from an agreement between then President Richard Nixon and Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin in May 1972. The mission involved extensive joint training and went almost without a hitch. Slayton, who had had to learn to speak Russian, flew the Apollo capsule as the two spacecraft docked and undocked and performed four crew exchanges and some 27 scientific experiments. The flight was only marred by the accidental release of nitrogen tetroxide gas into the American craft before landing. The crew were taken to hospital where Slayton was found to have a potentially dangerous lung condition.

His ambition satisfied, Slayton returned to managerial duties and directed early tests of the space shuttle. His stone-faced reserve was gone, and he was asked for one mission what the astronauts would be doing until liftoff, he replied "I think they'll be goofing off."

Slayton retired from NASA in 1982 and joined Space Services, the first privately-financed space enterprise, becoming the company's president. At the time of his death he was vice-president of the Mercury Seven foundation, which raises money for science scholarships.

Deke Slayton's first marriage ended in divorce; he is survived by his second wife and one son by his earlier marriage.

## DAME JOYCE BISHOP

Dame Joyce Bishop, DBE, former headmistress of the Godolphin and Latymer School, London, died on June 7 aged 96. She was born in Birmingham on July 28, 1896.

JOYCE BISHOP was one of the leading figures in the development of this country's secondary school system. Her professional career spanned 45 years, from 1918 to 1963, 39 of them as a headmistress.

These were decades of rapid change — social, political and economic — during which the educational framework was subject to close examination. Between 1916 and 1943 proposals for reform were made in a series of official reports: Hadow (1926), Spens (1938), Beveridge (1942) and Norwood (1943) — and the Butler Act of 1944 brought about a fundamental re-appraisal of the administration and content of our national system of school education.

The heavy responsibilities for adaptation to these changes lay with the governing bodies, but consequential action lay with the headmistresses. Joyce Bishop was among the most successful in her advice, guidance and leadership throughout her career.

There were further changes after her retirement: in 1965, the Labour government, under the aegis of Anthony Crosland and subsequently

Shirley Williams, decided to reorganise the schools on comprehensive lines under local education authorities, appalled by the prospect of the loss of independence by governing bodies she entered the debate against these proposals, arguing on the basis of her lifetime of experience, and the comparative failure of comprehensive education elsewhere in the world.



Joyce Bishop was born in Birmingham into a happy family which, she claimed, gave her that secure foundation on which she built the firm guiding principles which endured throughout her life — a strong Christian faith, complete integrity in thought and action, a sense of personal responsibility, belief in the importance of reasoned discipline as a prerequisite to self-discipline, and a deep understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of other people. These principles provided the basis of the minutiae of friendships which enriched her life.

She went up to Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, in 1915 before taking her first teaching post in the Hertfordshire and Essex High School in 1918. Her apprenticeship lasted only six years. At the early age of 27, she applied for and was appointed to the post of headmistress of Holly Lodge High School for Girls in Smethwick, a post which she held for 11 years. In this time she changed the thinking and attitudes of all concerned: children, parents, staff and, most importantly, the Smethwick education committee. She left a close-knit community, proud of its status and believing in its future.

In 1935 came the invitation to become headmistress of the Godolphin and Latymer School for Girls in Hamstead, an office she held for 28 years. From the start, the fortunes of the school and the welfare of its pupils became the focal point of her life. Convinced that the purpose of education was, as Sir Richard Livingstone said to her, "to help individual members to develop their potential and to fulfil the promises in them", she successfully established the additional requirement that the school should be "a happy community." Her period of office entailed continuous adaptation to the educational reforms. She was a splendid crusader who always retained her sense of realism. Among many constructive initiatives she brought back into the classroom married women teachers on either a part-time or full-time basis; so successful was this that in 1963 she had 15 married women on her staff of 40.

In 1950 she became president of the Association of Headmistresses and three years later was appointed to the governing body of the Royal Ballet schools. She served as a United Kingdom delegate to the UNESCO conferences in Geneva and Montevideo in 1954. Her services to education were publicly recognised when she was appointed CBE in 1933 and created DBE in 1963 on her retirement from Godolphin.

She remained active in public affairs as a member of the University Grants Committee, the Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine, and the Television Research Committee of the Home Office. She was also a member of the National Froebel Institution and as a fellow of King's College, London. Joyce Butler's private life, as was rewarding as her professional career. The same generosity in judgments, her compassionate understanding of other people's troubles or aspirations, her wit, her interest in national and world affairs and her warm welcome brought countless friends to her home in Putney. In the later years of her retirement, her eyesight and hearing started to fail her — severe handicaps to an avid reader and a gifted conversationalist whose mind remained as active as ever. But she met adversity with courage and resignation, supported by Elizabeth Ellett, her devoted friend, companion and housekeeper for nearly fifty years.

West Germany 3, England 2

The World Cup drifted away from England in the Garmisch Stadium here today and now they are left with a private sea of emigrants. Two goals up with only 20 minutes left, and Bell and Hunter substituted for Charlton and Peters at that point, they had both feet, so it seemed, in the semi-final of this ninth global football championship.

It looked all over. But it is never so against these Germans. The day of settlement for that 1966 final had to come some time and it came now, dramatically and in extra time — as indeed there had been at Wembley four years ago.

In an admirable resurgence of spirit, stamina and skill the Germans earned a win that seemed at one point far beyond their reach. Drawing level at the end of normal time it was an old-fashioned move that finally drove the last blade in for victory, five minutes into the start of the second period of the extra half hour.

Grabowski, beating Cooper for speed on the outside, moved to the by-line and centred

deep to the left. Up went Lohr to head back square and there was Muller to grab his ace goal of these championships as he volleyed home from close range. Never perhaps will he or his side treasure a goal more deeply. Yet the better side won in the end. And they won because, once Beckenbauer had put the Germans back into the match when it was three-quarters gone, England wrongly proceeded to pull in their horns, pack the perimeter of their penalty area and concede the central areas to the twin German generals, Beckenbauer and Overath, supported by that wise old owl, Seeler. That was

the heart and core of this extraordinary upheaval when all seemed done.

If Sir Alf Ramsey, in his disappointment, followed with the words: "I have never seen England give away two such goals," I would not know which ones he meant. This would seem cruelly ungenerous to anyone who had to suffer out there in the sun. But I do feel that Gordon Banks, had he been under England's crossbar, would not have come off his line to let Seeler's header loop over him and that he would have cut out Lohr's cross header that led to the winner by Muller.

Having travelled 170 miles by road yesterday from the turbulent concrete jungle of a million-strong city of Guadalajara, England moved to this charming little provincial centre, a place by comparison drowsy and closely wrapped.

When the teams came out, England in red and Germany in white, there was an echo of that sunny Wembley final of July, 1966. England now, sadly, were without Banks, their master goalkeeper, sick overnight. In his place stood Chelsea's Bonetti. On the field were five men on each side who had contested the World Cup final, but now there was something special. This was Bobby Charlton's 10th cap for England, to beat Billy Wright's record set up 12 years ago.

## PERSONAL COLUMN

### RENTALS

BARNES On the River, new 3 bed maisonette, 1st floor, modern, bright, sunny, close to school, transport, shops, etc. Tel: 0181 871 2300.

WIMBLEDON 2 bed flat, 1st floor, modern, bright, sunny, close to school, transport, shops, etc. Tel: 0181 871 2300.

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ABSOLUTELY ALL TICKETS WIMBLEDON '93

WIMBLEDON '93

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### TICKETS FOR SALE

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### WANTED

ALL WIMBLEDON '93 TICKETS

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WIMBLEDON '93

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### SERVICES

PLUMP PASTRIES National

WIMBLEDON '93

WIMBLEDON '93

### TICKETS FOR SALE

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WIMBLEDON '93

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## Marie Curie left a legacy that utterly changed cancer treatment. So can you.

Marie Curie discovered radium in the year 1898. By 1900 radiotherapy was being used to treat cancer. And she left more. She inspired the only charity to attack cancer with surgery and research: Marie Curie Cancer Care. Our Research Institute is helping to transform the fight against cancer.

Our nurses and doctors transform lives. And so does every legacy we are left.

For your free booklet on leaving one, please write to: Helen Smith at Marie Curie Cancer Care, Prospect 177, 9 Belgrave Mews South, London, SW1X 8ST. Or alternatively you can call 0171 235 3325.

Marie Curie. Radium and radon against cancer.

## ON THIS DAY

### June 15 1970

#### WEST GERMANY EMERGE WORTHY WINNERS

From Geoffrey Green Football Correspondent  
Leon, June 14

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## NEWS

## Thatcher tells Tories: back Major

Baroness Thatcher has intervened in the internal Conservative crisis of confidence to call on the party to throw its support behind John Major.

With support for Mr Major's leadership at its lowest ebb and speculation about a challenge to him this year or next, Lady Thatcher told an intermediary that the party should not again become involved in "musical chairs". She acknowledged her differences with Mr Major, but added: "We must all get behind John."

Pages 1, 2, 10, 16, 17

## UN keeps up Somalia attacks

The United Nations defied international condemnation of its efforts to bring peace to Somalia and followed up a series of American air strikes on Mogadishu with another helicopter attack.

Pages 1, 12

## Venables loses battle

Terry Venables has lost his High Court fight to continue as executive director of Tottenham Hotspur, a savage blow to his hopes of buying out Alan Sugar as chairman of the Premier League club.

Page 1, 3

## Timex boss quits

Union leaders fear that Timex, the US-owned electronics company, is likely to close its strike-hit British plant after the resignation of Peter Hall, the president of the UK company.

Page 1

## Coldstream alert

The Coldstream Guards have been put on notice that they are the regiment next in line for a six-month tour of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The order indicates that the government is prepared to deploy troops to beyond the 12-month limit ministers originally felt adequate.

Page 1

## Informer risks death

Declan Casey, a self-proclaimed IRA double agent, lay low in Northern Ireland yesterday after returning to Strabane, co. Tyrone, in a blaze of publicity, apparently to await an assassin's bullet.

Page 3

## Sams trial outburst

The mother of Julie Dart was involved in an emotional courtroom confrontation with the man who denies murdering her daughter. Lynn Dart shouted across the court to Michael Sams: "He's mine."

Page 3

## Clinton sues for peace with press

President Clinton has declared a ceasefire — with the White House press corps. After five months of open warfare, he finally put aside his icy hostility towards the Fourth Estate and tried hot-dog diplomacy instead. At short notice he and Hillary invited 300 journalists and their spouses to a South Lawn barbecue and greeted every guest.

Page 12

## Fire pay peace move

Local authorities are prepared to restore an index-linked pay formula to firefighters in a bid to avert a strike, but the move is likely to anger ministers.

Page 9

## Thousands flee

Thousands of Bosnian Croats were in flight as avenging Muslim troops burned and sacked Croat villages in central Bosnia. Up to 10,000 Croats were said to be flooding into the small town of Kakanj while another 5,000 were roaming in the woods.

Page 11

## Turkey's new broom

Tansu Ciller, Turkey's first woman prime minister, has set about making the first wide-spreading changes in government in the "wind of change" which her supporters hoped she would bring.

Page 13

## German SPD leader

Germany's Social Democrat Party, struggling to rediscover its sense of unity and purpose, has chosen Rudolf Scharping, a political scientist aged 45, as the party's leader. Herr Scharping, considered a dour politician, is prime minister of Rhineland Palatinate.

Page 11

## Hong Kong killers

The Hong Kong media have turned their attention from the fraught discussions with China to the man-eating shark or sharks is believed to have killed two people in a fortnight.

Page 13



Pulling together: a replica trireme is rowed down the Thames as part of the celebration of 2,500 years of Greek democracy. Tomorrow the Olympians will be berthed at Westminster where the Speaker of the House of Commons will board it for a presentation

## BUSINESS

**De Lorean breakthrough:** A decade after the collapse of De Lorean Motor Cars, liquidators have recovered a quarter of the money which was invested by the government in the manufacturer of luxury cars.

Page 21

**BT offer:** The first payment for shares in the government's third sale of BT shares next month will be 150p for public investors, who are being offered a package of incentives.

Page 23

**Markets:** Shares enjoyed a strong rally and the FT-SE 100 index closed 23.7 higher at 2,885.5. Sterling was firm, rising 18 cents to \$1.5258 and 41 pfennigs to DM2.4802.

Page 24

**Tennis:** Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi has been seeded No 9 for this year's championships. Peter Sampras and Steffi Graf are the top seeds for the men's and women's singles.

Page 40

**Rugby Union:** The British Lions have chosen Jason Leonard, England's loose-head prop in 25 internationals, to play at tight-head forward for tomorrow's game against Taranaki.

Page 38

**Athletics:** Britain's selectors have persuaded Kris Akabusi to come out of international retirement for the European Cup in Rome. Chief coach Frank Dick felt that Gary Cadogan was too inexperienced for the 400m hurdles.

Page 36

**Respected champion:** In retirement, Jimmy Carter has become the true force of decency in international life. Manthwa d'Amica on the former president.

Page 14

**Basic questions:** Identical twins have long been seen as nature's own experiment, providing the answer to the question of whether genes or environment have more influence.

Page 15

**Pilot scheme:** "We may regard ourselves as ordinary members of the public but, after all, sitting in judgment upon others is an extraordinary position," Paula Davies on magistrates.

Page 29

**Is Shrek a Designer?** That is the question posed by a big new Design Museum retrospective surveying the quirky French designer's output. Joe Joseph put it directly to the man.

Page 35

**Alternative rock in the park:** Thousands descended on Emsbury Park, in north London at the weekend for an open-air festival of "alternative rock", headed by The Cure and Belly.

Page 34

**Blooming confessions:** Tomorrow, on "Bloomsday", Oxford University Press will republish the original version of Joyce's *Ulysses* — and rekindle one of the biggest literary controversies of recent years.

Page 35

Ray Gostling launches the much-heralded series on *Adultery* (BBC2, 9.45pm)..... Page 39

## Rights for all

The Vienna conference on human rights must at the very least preserve the gains of the past 45 years. The altered international mood should enable it to do better if Western governments, most of which are paying too little attention, put greater weight behind the defence of liberty.

Page 17

## Turkey's Thatcher

Even today the election of a woman prime minister is an unusual event. The election of Tansu Ciller to head the government in Turkey is significant for another reason: it marks the transfer of power to a new generation in Turkish politics.

Page 17

## Outposts of empire

The imperial capital of the European empire has sometimes seemed very far away. Little did us provincials from this foggy, northern backwater realise that we, too, could share in the brilliant views of the new Rome.

Page 17

## BERNARD LEVIN

It is true that the quality of mercy is not strained, and indeed it droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven upon the place beneath. Moreover, it is twice blessed — oh yes it is, because it blesseth him that gives and him that takes. But will that be enough for South Africa?

Page 16

## WOODROW WYATT

John Major still has the capacity to grow in stature by learning from his mistakes, and should be given the chance.

Page 16

## TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

## Wimbledon: the hidden appeal

Have the conventions of Wimbledon hidden the real voyeuristic appeal of lawn tennis? Alice Thomson asks

## An artistic lion in Venice

At the Venice Biennale, British artist Richard Hamilton has won a Golden Lion. Richard Cork surveys the work of Hamilton and the other stars of Venice's massive art jamboree

## Favoured estates of the nation

What is it about Scottish game estates that appeals to the foreigner?



Graham Pink, the nurse who complained about the care in his hospital, won £11,000 yesterday from the local authority that sacked him

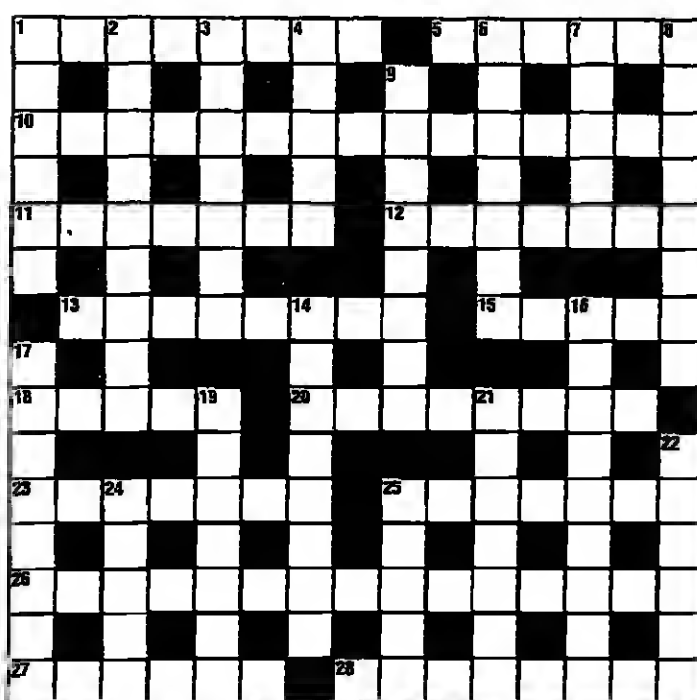


Kim Campbell, Canada's new prime minister is acerbic, brittle and with a glinting ambition, and has to prove herself quickly



Neil Foster, the Essex fast bowler recalled for the second Test against Australia, has been fined £250 by his county for kicking over the stumps

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,257



- ACROSS**
- Big waves beyond territorial waters (4,4).
  - Graduate's research place backs claimant (6).
  - With us, idle merriment produces the shakes (8,7).
  - Unusual spread — unlike the curate's egg (3-4).
  - Member having a peg — he gets what's left (7).
  - Ancient nomadic race, originally semi-toed (8).
  - Pages and pages about a handwritten document (5).
  - Look sullen, being let down (5).
  - Deceive sweetheart about source of gift, using great diplomacy (3-5).
  - Look over cursorily and object about Asian shrub (7).
- DOWN**
- Concealing a drubbing (6).
  - Her husband prefers greens (4,5).
  - Massacre almost developing from such wounding words (7).
  - Some are plagued with malaria (5).
  - Archdeacon wearing bizarre gear — but he will get his own back (7).
  - Exhausted swan is in the way (5).
  - Many taking English need to avail themselves of a rubber (8).
  - Conventional manner captivates one's daughter (8).
  - Food here is removed before it can be eaten (4-4).
  - Arrival by river is a risky undertaking (9).
  - Special line, chopped-up Jamaica pepper (8).
  - Pity about the Inspector? (7).
  - A horse covered with fat is a dawdler (7).
  - Following unfinished business, this is the remnant (3-3).
  - Information needed in raising sheep (5).
  - Impetuous consumptive girl with cold (5).

## Solution to Puzzle No 19,256

FAILING APOSTOL  
N M E A P S T O L  
A E S O P E A R A S I  
G P E A R A S I  
S H E R R Y A N I T A T E S  
T C A O L  
O U T R I E B A N K L E R K  
N G B I O I  
E L E C T R O N S M A C O N  
X L U P A G  
C A P T I O U S R A N S O M  
E E X A M I N E S H I E D  
S N O M E L A  
M I S C E R A N P O S S E S S

Concise Crossword, page 40

## TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0801 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
North London	702
South London	703
West London	704
East London	705
North Midlands	706
South Midlands	707
West Midlands	708
East Midlands	709
North East	710
South East	711
West Midlands	712
East Midlands	713
North East	714
South East	715
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North East	730
South East	731
West Midlands	732
East Midlands	733
North East	734
South East	735
West Midlands	736
East Midlands	737
North East	738
South East	739
West Midlands	740
East Midlands	741
North East	742
South East	743
West Midlands	744
East Midlands	745

## ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0300 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
Oxford & SE traffic, roadworks	732
M1 & M25 traffic, roadworks	733
M1 & M25 traffic, roadworks	734
M1 & M25 traffic, roadworks	735
M1 & M25 traffic, roadworks	736
M1 & M25 traffic, roadworks	737
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M1 & M25 traffic, roadworks	741
M1 & M25 traffic, roadworks	742
M1 & M25 traffic, roadworks	743
M1 & M25 traffic, roadworks	744
M1 & M25 traffic, roadworks	745

## TIMES TRAVELLER

Australia	10.50	10.50
Belgium	10.50	10.50
Canada	10.50	10.50
Denmark	10.50	10.50
Finland	10.50	10.50
France	10.50	10.50
Germany	10.50	10.50
Greece	10.50	10.50
Hong Kong	10.50	10.50
India	10.50	10.50
Italy	10.50	10.50
Japan	10.50	10.50
Netherlands	10.50	10.50
Portugal	10.50	10.50
Spain	10.50	10.50
Sweden	10.50	10.50
Switzerland	10.50	10.50
Turkey	10.50	10.50
USA	10.50	10.50

## Outbreaks of rain will spread

across Northern Ireland this morning, push into southwestern Scotland by the afternoon and reach northwest England, Wales and Cornwall later. The rest of Scotland and eastern England will see the best of the weather, with warm sunny spells. Late in the day it will become cloudy over central parts with patchy drizzle in places. Outlook: becoming drier and brighter from the west.

## MIDDAY: 1=thunder, 2=drizzle, 3=fog, 4=sun, 5=cloud, 6=rain, 7=heavy rain, 8=heavy snow, 9=light snow, 10=light rain, 11=light snow, 12=light rain, 13=light snow, 14=light rain, 15=light snow, 16=light rain, 17=light snow, 18=light rain, 19=light snow, 20=light rain, 21=light snow, 22=light rain, 23=light snow, 24=light rain, 25=light snow, 26=light rain, 27=light snow, 28=light rain, 29=light snow, 30=light rain, 31=light snow, 32=light rain, 33=light snow, 34=light rain, 35=light snow, 36=light rain, 37=light snow, 38=light rain, 39=light snow, 40=light rain, 41=light snow, 42=light rain, 43=light snow, 44=light rain, 45=light snow, 46=light rain, 47=light snow, 48=light rain, 49=light snow, 50=light rain, 51=light snow, 52=light rain, 53=light snow, 54=light rain, 55=light snow, 56=light rain, 57=light snow, 58=light rain, 59=light snow, 60=light rain, 61=light snow, 62=light rain, 63=light snow, 64=light rain, 65=light snow, 66=light rain, 67=light snow, 68=light rain, 69=light 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# EC shaken after Bonn breaks ranks on trade

FROM TOM WALKER  
IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission was yesterday considering taking legal action against the German government for breaking with its EC partners and opening up its telecommunications market to American manufacturers.

Just seven days before the Copenhagen summit, the last thing the EC needs is a damaging internal trade argument. Yet commission officials yesterday admitted the unilateral German move has sent shockwaves through the EC when a united stance was vital for its credibility in the Gatt world trade negotiations.

Germany has refused to join its EC partners in taking counter-sanctions against Washington in the telecommunications market, following the much-publicised breakdown in negotiations between Sir Leon Brittan, the trade commissioner, and the American counterpart, Mickey Kantor earlier this year.

Mr Kantor, the US trade representative, objects to article 29 of an EC directive that gives EC companies a 3 per cent margin of preference in bidding for public contracts.

Sir Leon says the "Buy American" act operated in the American market has much the same effect, and in the vital telecommunications sector neither has been prepared to budge, with both sides deciding to block out one another's products and services.

But during last week's

Less than one week before the Copenhagen summit, Germany's unilateral move has shattered the Community's united stance on trade sanctions

OECD meeting in Paris, Guntar Rexrodt, the German economic minister, struck the beginnings of a deal with Mr Kantor to bilaterally drop any sanctions between the two countries in telecommunications. Germany is therefore violating EC law in two respects, by not applying an EC directive, and by refusing to bow to EC competence in trade matters.

Political sources suggest, meanwhile, that Bonn is letting Paris know that it will not be pushed around in trade matters. As a supporter of free trade, the German government is deeply annoyed at the new French centre-right government's apparent rejection of the "Blair House" agricultural deal with Washington. If France does refuse to sign the Blair House agreement, Gatt negotiations will be in serious trouble.

France, the biggest supporter of Article 29, is pushing the commission to take action against Germany, and the French media devoted many pages to the affair yesterday. *Le Monde* said the conflict was "a long way from being resolved," an attitude shared by worried commission officials.

"We had no warning that they weren't going to apply sanctions," said a spokesman for Sir Leon, who is deeply disappointed with Bonn's action. "They signed the directive, they signed the counter-sanctions — it's a funny way of doing trade policy. There is clearly a political element to this."

What makes the German action more odd is that EC telecommunications exports affected by the American sanctions amount to only about £30 million. But companies such as Siemens fear that losing market share because of a relatively petty dispute could have disastrous long-term consequences. The telecommunications market is expanding so rapidly that by the year 2000 sales in Europe alone are expected to double to about \$297 billion. That would equal 4.5 per cent of the community GDP, surpassing the car industry in both financial size and importance.



Surging ahead: John Harris, left, and Norman Askew, of East Midlands Electricity

## East Midlands powers on

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

EAST Midlands Electricity, the first of the 12 regional distributors to report final results this year, has started a dividend race by coming in with a payment to shareholders ahead of expectations.

The shares jumped 6p to 450p, prompting rises elsewhere in the electricity sector, after the 14 per cent dividend increase that accompanied news of a rise in pre-tax profits for the year to end-March ahead from £150 mil-

lion to £151.1 million after £14 million of provisions to cover restructuring.

A 13.78p final payment makes a dividend of 19.5p, against 17.1p. John Harris, the chairman and chief executive, said the move would establish a new base that reflected the underlying strength of the company before the forthcoming regulatory reviews into the cost, supply and distribution business.

The move by East Mid-

lands had analysts raising their unofficial dividend forecasts for the forthcoming reporting season from the regional distribution companies over the next three weeks.

Cash generation of almost £45 million helped trim general by 10 percentage points to 22 per cent. However, the unregulated energy services business had a £4.9 million operating loss.

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### BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Heywood Williams buys into US housing

HEYWOOD Williams is buying into the American housing market with the \$65 million purchase of Lusale-Dutch, a distributor of building products and furnishings to the US manufactured housing industry. The price includes the \$8 million cost of repaying Lusale's borrowings and represents a large part of the £60 million Heywood earned by selling its glass business to Pilkington earlier this year.

Lusale sold \$117 million of fixtures and furnishings into the \$1 billion distribution sector of the market last year, making an operating profit of \$6.4 million. Lusale's unaudited operating profits for the first four months of this year were \$2.5 million, up from \$1.4 million in the previous year. Lusale's other main business, accounting for 17 per cent of turnover is supplying mobile home manufacturers. The industry's target market (the over 40s) is expected to increase in size through the remainder of the decade.

Lusale is a subsidiary of Heywood Williams, which is 78 per cent owned by ICI, yesterday said it was considering joint ventures with Sasol, the South African oil group.

## Zestril lifts Zeneca price

ZENECA shares rose 6p to 617p yesterday when the pharmaceutical group, which recently emerged from ICI, said Zestril had been approved to help treat congestive heart failure by the US Food and Drug Administration. Zestril is also used to treat hypertension and won sales of £29.4 million in 1992. AECI, the South African chemical group which is 78 per cent owned by ICI, yesterday said it was considering joint ventures with Sasol, the South African oil group.

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## Russian planemakers go for the hard sell in Paris



Air time: Antonov's 'Firekiller' plane at Le Bourget

FROM CHARLES BRENNER  
IN PARIS

PSST! Wanna buy some vodka? A CD of Rachmaninov? Or how about a MiG 29 with heat-seeking missiles and a cast-iron service contract? The sales pitch for all of these items can be heard at stalls a few yards from each other at the Paris air show where the Russians have turned up in force in an attempt to earn the currency that is vital for saving their illustrious plane makers.

If you do not fancy the MiG or, perhaps, the sinister Kamov-50 'Black Shark' attack helicopter, then your custom will be appreciated at the

souvenir stand. Among the blazers and champagne crowd at the Western chalets, the talk at Le Bourget this year is all gloom, a stark contrast to the post Gulf war euphoria of the last show, in 1991. Airline wars, recession and decimated defence budgets have made for a sour mood typified by Airbus and Boeing's mutual charges of cheating over last year's accord to limit government subsidies to three per cent of turnover.

The big exception to the gloom are the Russians, who are running around like schoolboys trying to drum up interest in the extraordinary display of hardware, ranging from the celebrated Sukhoi-27 interceptor

to spindly aerobatic craft and a microlight biplane, turned out by the design bureaux whose very names used to strike fear in the Pentagon.

Of the 70 aircraft flying at the show, 20 are Russian, compared with just five American planes, a ratio that in the old days would have provided a feast for Nato intelligence. This year, the Americans were too busy trying to make sure the French were not stealing their secrets.

Long the spoiled children of the Kremlin, the former Soviet plane makers have been turned loose to earn their own keep. From the public view, the king of their display is still the sleek twin-tailed Sukhoi, which

has been exciting the crowds with its sit-up-and-beg 'cobra' stunt. But unlike previous air shows, the Russians say that they are not trying to impress their adversaries with their exotic, gigantic and notoriously unreliable craft.

They now want to sell and they recognise this will sometimes mean ditching the inferior engines and electronics in favour of the Western-made version. This year, Antonov, the Ukraine-based company, is offering what it calls the 'Firekiller', a conventional turbo-prop converted for tackling forest fires. On the military side, where the only real Western star of the show is the new

Dassault Rafale, the Russians are offering to deliver MiG 29s tailor-made to the customer's requirements with guarantees of service.

In the present aerospace famine, the Western makers are no longer dismissing Russian aircraft exports as a joke. No one imagines the premium airlines will be ditching their Boeings and Airbuses, but the Russians could tempt a few companies in China and other emerging countries with low-cost hybrids which marry the best of native airframe design with Western equipment. 'Perhaps we were a little hasty in helping them out,' one British executive said.

## Incentives toned down for third BT sell-off

BY PATRICIA TEHAN

THE first payment for shares in the government's third sale of BT shares next month will be 150p for public investors, Stephen Dorrell, financial secretary to the Treasury, said yesterday.

The government's remaining 22 per cent stake is to be sold in three instalments over 15 months. The second instalment will be 140p, payable in March next year.

The price of the third instalment, to be paid the following October, will be fixed by reference to the price that institutions tender for the shares and will be announced before start of trade on Monday July 19.

Institutions bidding for shares in the international side of the BT3 share offer will pay a premium to the UK public offer price, as in previous privatisations. The size of the discount will not be published until the size of the first international instalment is announced when the prospectus is published on June 29.

Small investors are being encouraged to register

■ The government denies it is 'massaging' the BT share price by favouring institutions that are buyers of existing shares before the sale of the third and last tranche

through a Share Shop or the Share Information Office, with the offer of either a discount of 10p on each of the second and third instalments on allocations of up to 1,000 shares, or a one-for-15 share bonus after three years, on allocations up to 1,500 shares, giving a maximum entitlement of 100 bonus shares. Those applying through a Share Shop will also be eligible to receive greater preference in allocation of shares than those applying through the Share Information Office if there is heavy demand.

The incentives are less attractive than they were in BT2, when the government offered 15p off the second and third instalments. That worked out at an 8.5 per cent discount off the 350p strike price.

With BT3, the two 10p discounts work out at 5 per cent off yesterday's 421p BT

share price. The cut off date for registration with the Share Shop or Share Information Office is Friday, July 2. The UK public offer closes at 10am on Wednesday July 14 and the international offer, including retail tender, closes on July 16.

Mr Dorrell said that 1.8 million potential new investors have registered their interest in the offer, in addition to the 2.4 million employees and existing shareholders. Of the 1.8 million, more than 700,000 had registered through a Share Shop, he said.

Existing shareholders will receive preference in allocation of shares over new applicants, but for even greater preference they should register with a share shop, SG Warburg, which is advising the government on the sale, said yesterday.

Mr Dorrell dismissed criticism of the government's advertising campaign. He said share shops, which have complained that they are being sidelined in the share offer are 'understanding their own success'.

He also denied that the government is 'massaging' the price by favouring institutions that buy BT shares before the issue over those which sell, saying the government is not forcing institutions to do anything. 'We are simply anxious to ensure that there would be an orderly market'.

The minimum application for the public offer is 120 shares, with a first instalment payment of £180. Private investors who wish apply for large numbers of shares can participate in the retail tender, which is part of the international offer.

The minimum application for personal equity plan applicants in the retail tender will be 1,000 shares and the maximum will be 2,000 shares. For other applicants in the retail tender, the minimum application will be 2,000.

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## Millwall talks to investors

Millwall Holdings, the parent company of Millwall Football Club, is in preliminary talks with parties interested in taking a substantial, though not controlling, stake in the group.

Reg Burr, chairman, said some business diversification was also on the cards if the investors join the company. He said their potential stake would be 'substantial' but would not amount to a full bid. A further statement was probable within weeks.

## Chillington up

Chillington Corporation, the diversified industrial, plantations and agricultural hand tools group, lifted pre-tax profit 47.8 per cent to £955,000 in the year to end-December. An 0.25p final dividend makes a reduced total of 0.25p (0.5p) in view of improved trading, an 0.75p interim will be paid with the interim results.

## Reed closer

Reed Elsevier has cleared its first hurdle in acquiring the Official Airlines Guides Inc from the joint administrators of Maxwell Communication Corporation. It still needs to carry out the due diligence process of checks on OAG's finances and more detailed contract negotiations.

## Stratagem rises

Stratagem Group, the investment company, is paying an interim dividend of 1.5p (half) after reporting a pre-tax profit of £272,000 in the half year to end-February, compared with a restated loss of £221,000.

## Nissan UK chief 'cheated' Revenue out of £97m

BY RICHARD DUCE

A MULTI-MILLION pound tax fraud was carried out by the managing director of Nissan UK Ltd, a court was told yesterday. Over 17 years, Michael Hunt cheated the Inland Revenue out of corporation tax worth more than £97 million, it was alleged by Peter Rook, QC, prosecuting for the Serious Fraud Office.

The prime mover in the fraud, involving a 'morass of false documentation' was Octav Botnar, the former head of Nissan UK, which used to import and distribute Britain's best-selling foreign-made car. A warrant is still out for the arrest of Mr Botnar who is thought to be in Switzerland.

Mr Hunt, 59, of Hove, East Sussex, denies two counts of conspiracy to cheat and two of

conspiracy to make use of false accounting documents between 1975 and December 1991. Mr Hunt has not given or called any evidence.

In his closing speech to the Southwark Crown Court, Mr Rook said: 'You have been listening to an extraordinary story... a story of massive fraud perpetrated over many years, a fraud perpetrated on the UK revenue who were cheated of more than £97 million and that is without looking at the interest'.

It is alleged that the fraud centred on secretly siphoning off £219 million from the company profits and then laundering money through bank accounts in Geneva.

Mr Hunt together with other 'sophisticated fraudsters' covered their tracks with false documentation as well as sham shipping agents in The Netherlands and Norway according to Mr Rook.

He told the jury, sitting at Chichester Remis in Chancery Lane, that the evidence against Mr Hunt was overwhelming. He dismissed the defence claim that the fraud had been carried out abroad by other people against the Japanese tax authorities. 'If that were the case then for all those years, 1976 right through to 1991, Mr Botnar and Mr Hunt would have been innocent dupes,' Mr Rook said.

'The prosecution say that when you look at the evidence it all points in one direction, a fraud upon the UK revenue.' The trial continues today.

## Fewer company failures

BY SARAH BAGNALL

COMPANY failures in the first three months of 1993 rose slightly from the previous quarter but fell by about 15 per cent from the comparable quarter last year, according to the quarterly review from Trade Indemnity, the trade credit insurer.

But the credit insurance group said recovery will be slow by historical standards and will be battling against a 50 mile an hour headwind for some time to come.

The number of failures reported by Trade Indemnity's

policyholders — companies which insure against their customers going bust — stood at 1,767 in the first quarter of 1993, compared to 2,074 in the corresponding quarter in 1992.

However, the insurer said credit risk 'will deepen' over the next few months in EC markets, to which 58 per cent of UK exports go. This, the review states, is partly the result of continental Europe's 'infatuation' with the devaluation process towards a single currency. As a result 'there is no room for compla-

cency and firms must continue to improve their credit management techniques', said a spokeswoman.

The review highlights the continuing problem of late payment of debts — only 2 per cent of small companies are being paid on time — and Trade Indemnity believes the damage potential has 'so far been underestimated'.

A geographical breakdown reveals that businesses in the North of England and Scotland continue to suffer despite the drop in failures.

## A more golden future for gold

FROM COLIN CAMPBELL  
IN ISTANBUL

GEORGE Soros was not at the World Gold Council annual meeting in Istanbul, but he was still a star at the show. For Mr Soros has helped to draw gold to everybody's attention again in 1993 and his buying of the metal has complemented the already solid fundamental ground that has been laid under the gold market.

However, even without him, or Sir James Goldsmith, there was no shortage of others to preach the message that gold has come in from the cold. And it is here to play an increasing investment and monetary role in a turbulent financial world.

From China, delegates were told that demand for gold is still strong and rising, and that its demands in 1993 are



Golden cheer from Turkey

expected to rise to 645 tonnes. Gold's bogeymen remain the central banks, whose intentions towards the metal and its role as a constituent of their foreign exchange reserves, will have a critical influence on the direction of the gold price.

After last year's sales of gold

reserves by the central banks of Belgium and The Netherlands, there is a feeling that central banks are more likely to want to keep their gold.

There is likely to be much shuffling of gold holdings, and bullion markets could be volatile. Canada remains a committed seller of its bullion reserves. But statements by the more influential central banks that include the Bundesbank and indications from the Bank of England, that central bank selling was not likely to continue at last year's heavy pace have, delegates were told, outweighed the harm of last year's Dutch/Belgium selling, and have effectively put a floor under the gold price.

The World Gold Council, through one of its special committees, is advising a number of central banks, including Russia, on the con-

stituent of their reserves. Richard Scott-Ram, of the gold council, said there was a valid case why certain central banks should diversify into gold. Robert Goy, a director of NM Rothschild & Sons, the bullion/banking house, said at the Financial Times World Gold Conference here that the gold market has turned for good fundamental reasons, that central bank sales are seen as less of a threat.

Istanbul is an increasingly important place for gold trading. As a Turkish delegate, said: 'Here, you can stroll through the Grand Bazaar and buy gold chains, and you can eat gold in a cup of soup, or buy a bottle of liquor with gold flakes in it and drink gold.' Officials handed out bottles of the gold-flaked liquor to prove it, thus giving new meaning to the concept of Turkish delight.



Improving picture: John Clark, BET chief executive, backed by a former chairman

## BET cuts payout and losses

BY GEORGE SVELL  
CITY EDITOR

BET, the business services group, has cut its final dividend to 1.25p from 2.25p, making 3.25p for the year to end March, down from 6.5p. The company had said in November it intended to maintain the dividend but said yesterday the cut was intended to preserve cash for future expansion.

The group turned in a loss for the year of £9.8 million, an improvement on the £48.4 million loss the previous year. Operating profit has fallen from £138.3 million to £74.2 million before exceptional charges of £76 million. These were to cover a fall in asset values and costs of reorganisation, largely on management cutbacks from approaching 400 to 50 at the central operation and restructuring at the profit centres.

After payment of the dividend, BET is showing a loss of £65.1 million or losses per share of 4p against 63.3p last time. However, the profit and loss account in the balance sheet shows a rise from £42.8 million to £152.3 million, thanks partly to the transfer of £45 million from the merger premium account. The cost of the ordinary dividend has been reduced from £48 million to £30.4 million. BET sold 27 businesses in the past year and in the past two years has reduced the number of profit centres from 160 to 80.

Tempus, page 25

## East Midlands Electricity plc

PRELIMINARY RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1993

Revenue	£157 billion up 1.7%	Earnings per share	53.3 pence up 6.4%
Operating profit	£155.1 million up 3.4%	Dividend per share	19.5 pence up 14%

## Positive action prepares ground for further progress.

- Operating profit increased by 2.9% to £162.1 million
- Operating profit, before exceptional items, increased by 11.8%
- Strong performance from the electricity business
- Growth in units distributed
- Core electricity business being restructured
- Gearing reduced to 22.2%

'The company has had a successful year. The core businesses of electricity distribution and supply have performed particularly well. The positive action that has been taken by the board has prepared the ground for further progress particularly through efficiency gains in the years ahead.'

John Harris  
Chairman and  
chief executive  
14th June, 1993

**East Midlands Electricity**

The Annual Review will be posted to all shareholders in early July.  
Copies are available by writing to the Company Secretarial Department, East Midlands Electricity plc,  
398 Coppice Road, Arnold, Nottingham NG5 7HX.



## Exports revive Kenwood

Kenwood Appliances, maker of kitchen equipment, raised pre-tax profits by 3.6 per cent to £9.6 million in the year to March 31, after sales growth of 10.4 per cent to £102 million.

Sterling helped exports, enabling Kenwood to recover lost ground. The company, launched on the stock market in July, issued a profits warning three months after dealings commenced, because sales had failed to meet forecasts. The total dividend is 5.85p, equivalent to 7.8p if the company had been listed for a whole year.

## Beverly ahead

Beverly Group, the specialist pumps-to-construction services group, moved back into the black in 1992, transforming losses of £2.6 million into a taxable profit of £63,000. The board says a dividend would not be prudent (0.625p).

## M&W jumps

M&W, the convenience store group, unveiled a 40 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £927,000 (£664,000) in the six months to end-March. Interim dividend is 1.1p (1p).

## Treatt advances

Improved margins helped Treatt, the distiller of oils and aromatic chemicals, lift pre-tax profits 12.8 per cent to £644,000 in the six months to end-March. The interim is 1.1p (1p).

## MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:		
Allied-Lyons	545p (+15p)	
Bass	478p (+11p)	
MJ Gleeson	878p (+10p)	
Transfer Tech	559p (+14p)	
Commercial Union	597p (+11p)	
Clayton	28p (+10p)	
Anglia TV	317p (+10p)	
Orion Disney	840p (+25p)	
First Group	214p (+11p)	
Gestem	115p (+11p)	
Lex Service	386p (+10p)	
ICI	707p (+15p)	
Beeles Hunter	252p (+12p)	
Critchley	355p (+10p)	
FALLS:		
ADT	588p (-10p)	
JW Spear	525p (-75p)	
Ex Aerospace	400p (-10p)	
Danka Be Sys	775p (-10p)	
SKF	702p (-25p)	

Closing Prices Page 25

## RECENT ISSUES

AG Holdings (125)	128	...
Break for the Border (48)	58	...
Brunelville Aggregates (25)	33	...
China Inv Trust (100)	94	+
China Inv Warrants	52	+
Division Group (40)	84	-
Drew Scientific (105)	131	-
Fleming Christie C (100)	104	+
Invensys (150)	170	-
Irish Continental	165	-
OGC (130)	122	-

FT-SE VOLUMES	
Code	Value
ASDA	5,600
Abbey Natl	1,700
All-Lyons	1,200
Anglia TV	2,000
Anglo	1,100
Arjo Wigan	700
Asi Foods	240
BAA	1,500
BAT Ind	2,700
BCC	953
BP	9,300
BT	5,000
BTG	2,000
BTI	480
Burdays	4,300
Bass	1,800
Brit Circle	445
Boots	2,600
Bowater	600
Brit Airways	1,200
Brit Gas	5,000
Brit Steel	7,800
Burnham Cast	478
Cable Wire	1,300
Cadbury	2,900

LIFE OPTIONS	
Code	Value
ABD Lym	500
ABD Lym	500
ABD Lym	500
ABD Lym	500
ABD Lym	500
ABD Lym	500
ABD Lym	500
ABD Lym	500
ABD Lym	500
ABD Lym	500

# New hope of cut in base rates pushes shares sharply higher



Roll up: Richard Batterby and Ray Tonkinson, of AG Holdings, made a good debut

ANOTHER cut in bank base rates is back on the City's agenda following news of a softening in both French and Italian rates. Institutional investors are now hoping this latest move will apply pressure to the Bundesbank to cut German rates and pave the way for the possible cut of a half point by the Bank of England. As a result, share prices were marked sharply higher with dealers continuing to report a certain amount of follow-through from Friday's US inflation figures. Shortages of stock helped squeeze prices higher.

But in spite of another firm start to trading on Wall Street, prices in London closed below their best with the FT-SE 100 index jumping 23.7 to 2,855.5 having been almost 30 points up. By the close 500 million shares had changed hands.

It could be an anxious time for investors today waiting for what the new Chancellor Kenneth Clarke has to say about the economy in his speech at the Guildhall tonight.

British Airways firmed 2p to 294p. At least 92 per cent of its £454 million rights issue at 245p has been taken up by shareholders. Saatchi & Saatchi, the advertising agency, slipped 1p to 165p although acceptances for its rights issue also reached 92 per cent.

BT jumped 10p to 432p as details of the sell-off were announced. The first installment for the partly-paid shares will be 150p, with the second at 140p. But private investors do not appear to be showing the same enthusiasm for the sale as previous privatisations.

Fisons ended the day 6p better at 161p in response to the launch of Tilde, its anti-asthma drug, in the US. But there was little support for the rest of the sector.

Unilever rose 13p to £10.44 before a presentation in London this week which is expected to contain an up-beat message, similar to a presentation in Holland last week.

Ladbrokes, the hotel, betting and property group, fell 7p to 178p after a cautious view on current trading prospects by chairman Cyril Stein. Net debt remained at similar levels but

the cost of servicing it was continuing to rise. Its Texas Homecare store group was also feeling the squeeze of the bitter DIY price war. Fears over rising debt costs caused Nigell Reed of Paribas after the AGM to cut his pre-tax profit forecast for Ladbrokes for the current year by £20 million to £165 million.

Rank Organisation touched 760p before settling 6p better at 754p amid revived talk that Channel 4 supremo Michael Grade was putting together a consortium to offer up to £400 million for the group's film interests. Rank has always been insistent that the business is not for sale but its high level of debt may force it to consider an offer.

Airtours added 5p to 323p after announcing plans to acquire Hogg Robinson's 214-strong branch travel agency business for about £25 million. Securicard fell 3p to 300p

as it continued to urge shareholders to reject the 270p a share cash offer from Rentokil, valuing the business at £59.2 million. On Friday, Rentokil extended the terms a further seven days after announcing it had received ac-

ceptances of only 1.35 per cent. Rentokil finished the session 5p dearer at 184p. Speculators believe Rentokil will be forced to increase its offer soon after meeting analysts later this week. Institutions accounting for 50 per cent of Secur-

icard's equity say they will not consider an offer of less than 350p.

First time dealings in AG Holdings, Britain's biggest manufacturer of despatch and shipping reels used for storing and dispensing cable and wire rope, got off to an encouraging start in first time trading. Placed at 125p, the shares started life at 132p before settling at 128p.

There were some firm spots in the drinks sector as institutional investors began to take the view that the sector has been left behind. Shortages of stock helped to exaggerate some price movements. There were gains for Allied-Lyons of 15p to 545p, Bass 11p to 478p, Guinness 9p to 493p, Grand Metropolitan 6p to 418p, Scott's & Newcastle 8p to 472p, Whitbread 8p to 487p and Wolverhampton & Dudley 3p to 518p.

BET rose 2p to 110p, despite remaining in the red and cutting the final dividend. The group recorded a pre-tax loss of £9.8 million compared with the previous year's restated deficit of £48.4 million.

The gilt market enjoyed a revival of institutional support, with investors continuing to take their cue from Europe. In futures, the September series of the long gilt rose seven ticks to £104.13 in trading which saw only 21,000 contracts completed.

The Bank of England managed to exhaust supplies of Treasury 8 1/4 per cent 2017, which was only issued on Friday. Later this week the Bank is expected to announce details of its next gilt auction which brokers say will be pitched at the short end.

Michael Clark

## Record yen goes on climbing

FROM JOANNA PITMAN  
IN TOKYO



Mieno: rate cut rejected

THE yen rose to another postwar record in the Tokyo markets yesterday, closing at ¥105.20 to the US dollar, in spite of rumours of efforts by the Bank of Japan to intervene, with large-scale buying of dollars.

Government officials attempted to calm the agitated markets by implying that the rise was not only speculative but also temporary. Yasushi Mieno, governor of the Bank of Japan, ruled out the possibility of cutting the official discount rate, which stands at a postwar low of 2.5 per cent, as a defence against further appreciation.

A senior Japanese official said the yen's rise against the dollar would stop if the Americans would only understand that the dollar's weakness would ultimately have an adverse effect on the US economy. The yen has appre-

ciated by more than 30 per cent in the past year and shows no signs of flagging.

Tokyo dealers favour the theory that American trade negotiators have embarked on an unofficial policy of talking up the yen to stop the growth of Japan's US\$40 billion trade surplus with America.

Mickey Kantor, the US trade representative, said in an interview at the weekend with the *Nihon Keizai Shimbun*, Japan's leading economic daily newspaper, that it was Japan's duty to support the world economy by reducing its current account surplus, which rose to \$117.62 billion last year from \$72.90 billion the year before, through further domestic stimulus and new measures to open its domestic market.

First Dealings Last Dealings  
June 14 June 15  
Last Settlement  
September 16  
September 27

Call options were taken out on 14/6/93: RBT, Dunhill, Euro Disney, J. Foster, Gest. MTH, Midland, Rammer, Regal, S. Southern Pacific, Puts & Calls: Ferraro, United Energy.

NEW YORK (midday)	
Dow Jones	5513.37 (+6.30)
S&P Composite	447.69 (+0.43)
Tokyo	20397.35 (+102.00)
Hong Kong	Closed
Amsterdam	1084.13
Sydney: AO	Closed
Frankfurt	1091.98 (+11.00)
DAX	1091.98 (+11.00)

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES	
Period	Open
FT-SE 100	2890.0
Three Month Sterling	94.05
Three Month Euro DM	92.38
Long Gilt	104.13
Japanese Govt Bond	102.15
German Govt Bond	95.07
German Govt Bond	95.07
Three Month ECU	92.47
Euro Swiss Franc	94.89
Italian Govt Bond	100.80

COMMODITIES	
Period	Open
Crude Oil	22.00
Gold	380.00
Silver	16.00
Copper	1.50
Aluminum	1.20
Zinc	1.10
Nickel	1.00

## GEC takes one-third stake in Eurorail

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

GEC is taking a stake in Eurorail, the Channel Tunnel rail link company owned by Trafalgar House and BICC, in a move which the company claims will enhance its ability to bid for major rail infrastructure projects in the UK.

Eurorail said yesterday that GEC is to become an equal shareholder in the jointly-owned company, bringing in further engineering and managerial skills as well as increased City credibility in terms of generating funding for large-scale private-sector infrastructure projects.

The company also said that Lord Parkinson, who as Cecil Parkinson was a Conservative

transport secretary, has been appointed chairman.

Eurorail said with the inclusion of GEC, the three shareholders now possessed project management, design and engineering capabilities, construction and technical skills, an understanding of the rail passenger and freight business and the credibility in the City and internationally to facilitate private sector funding of rail projects.

Eurorail will try to take advantage of the government's privatisation plans, the London CrossRail project and the upgrading of the West Coast main line, as well as the tunnel link.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES	
Period	Open
FT-SE 100	2890.0
Three Month Sterling	94.05
Three Month Euro DM	92.38
Long Gilt	104.13
Japanese Govt Bond	102.15
German Govt Bond	95.07
German Govt Bond	95.07
Three Month ECU	92.47
Euro Swiss Franc	94.89
Italian Govt Bond	100.80

COMMODITIES	
Period	Open
Crude Oil	22.00
Gold	380.00
Silver	16.00
Copper	1.50
Aluminum	1.20
Zinc	1.10
Nickel	1.00

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES	
Period	Open
FT-SE 100	2890.0
Three Month Sterling	94.05
Three Month Euro DM	92.38
Long Gilt	104.13
Japanese Govt Bond	102.15
German Govt Bond	95.07
German Govt Bond	95.07
Three Month ECU	92.47
Euro Swiss Franc	94.89
Italian Govt Bond	100.80

COMMODITIES	
Period	Open
Crude Oil	22.00
Gold	380.00
Silver	16.00
Copper	1.50
Aluminum	1.20
Zinc	1.10
Nickel	1.00

## WORLD MARKETS

## Kodak gives some snap to listless Dow

New York — US shares were flat at midday before Tuesday's US consumer price index for May. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 6.36 points at 3,511.37.

Advancing shares and declining issues were about even. US Treasuries were narrowly mixed, with the long bond up 1/32 to yield 6.80 per cent. Analysts said the Dow's strength was due to Eastman Kodak, which was upgraded to a buy from neutral by Dean Witter and rose 2 1/2 cents to \$53 1/4.

Tokyo — The Nikkei average closed 103.60 points lower at 20,397.35, with an estimated 250 million shares traded, the lowest volume since early March. Shares were affected by arbitrage unwinding after seeing all session. Investors were absent because of a nervous currency market and an array of US and Japanese economic indicators scheduled for this week.

Frankfurt — The Dax ended 7.38 points better at 1,688.32.

Singapore — The tone was mixed, with spill-over selling from Friday dampening trade. The Straits Times industrial index fell 10.42 points to 1,842.63.

Hong Kong — Closed for a public holiday.

(Reuters)

## WALL STREET

Jun 14	Jun 15	Jun 14	Jun 15
AMEC	62 1/2	AMEC	62 1/2
AMEC	62 1/2	AMEC	62 1/2
AMEC	62 1/2	AMEC	62 1/2
AMEC	62 1/2	AMEC	62 1/2
AMEC	62 1/2	AMEC	62 1/2
AMEC	62 1/2	AMEC	62 1/2
AMEC	62 1/2	AMEC	62 1/2
AMEC	62 1/2	AMEC	62 1/2
AMEC	62 1/2	AMEC	62 1/2

## MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 79.4 (day's range 79.3-79.4).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES	
Rate	Rate
1 month	79.4
3 months	79.4
6 months	79.4
9 months	79.4
12 months	79.4

OTHER SPOT RATES	
Rate	Rate
1 month	79.4
3 months	79.4
6 months	79.4
9 months	79.4
12 months	79.4

DOLLAR SPOT RATES	
Rate	Rate
1 month	79.4
3 months	79.4
6 months	79.4
9 months	79.4
12 months	79.4

MONEY RATES (%)	
Rate	Rate
1 month	79.4
3 months	79.4
6 months	79.4
9 months	79.4
12 months	79.4

MONEY RATES (%)	
Rate	Rate
1 month	79.4
3 months	79.4
6 months	79.4
9 months	79.4
12 months	79.4

MONEY RATES (%)	
Rate	Rate
1 month	79.4
3 months	79.4
6 months	79.4
9 months	79.4
12 months	79.4

MONEY RATES (%)	
Rate	Rate
1 month	79.4
3 months	79.4
6 months	79.4
9 months	79.4
12 months	79.4



# Putting the case against an independent central bank

Malcolm Crawford says the potential for conflict between exchange and interest-rate objectives would be high if the Bank were given a free hand

Independence of the Bank of England, propounded most recently by Norman Lamont in his swansong last week, has become a fashionable policy idea. The present Governor and his successor both favour it. Three of the last four Chancellors have spoken for a change. With ex-post facto turning gamekeepers as that speed, the game must be worth pursuing. Or so it would seem.

The ex-Chancellor who has not declared in favour is the prime minister. He said, after Mr Lamont's blast at him, that there was a genuine case for it but his real concern was "the need for accountability to Parliament".

The case for central bank independence lies largely in the political use of monetary policy, especially reductions in interest rates to help win elections, or to arrest recession or avert panic during a financial crisis. The last two uses have some merit, but it is hard to defend the distortion of monetary policy during election campaigns.

Oddly enough, John Major is the only prime minister in at least a quarter of a century to forbear from cutting interest rates during an election run-up.

Is it too cynical to suggest that "accountability to Parliament" is a euphemism for freedom for ministers to manipulate interest rates for short-term political purposes?

There is a snag about independence for the central bank, at least for the time being. Monetary policy and the exchange rate are closely connected. And nobody has yet recommended that the Treasury concede the exchange rate as well as monetary policy to the Bank.

If the exchange rate is floating freely, with no target rate, no such problem arises. The Bank could set interest rates according to the prospects for inflation and real growth, with little concern about the exchange rate. At the other extreme, if sterling were to re-enter the ERM tomorrow, and the government were to be sure that the chosen rate would never be changed, the central bank could be relied on to set whatever interest rates were compatible with that objective. It would then have to be less concerned about the real economy. At present the exchange rate is competitive. As long as that is so, a fixed exchange rate is no hazard to growth or employment.

In the real world of UK economic policy, the exchange rate is managed but variable. That is true at present and will remain so if and when sterling re-enters the ERM, since over any extended period, the central rate is subject to change. The government will hold it fixed only so long as it remains politically possible to do so.

If, starting next month, Eddie George was to conduct monetary policy without taking orders from Whitehall, interest rates set by the central bank would have uncertain but perhaps large effects on sterling. The Bank has already expressed doubts about whether the government's 4 per cent inflation ceiling can be sustained with present policies. Given only a small rise in interest rates by a newly independent Bank, the pound would rise. It could well rise to within its former ERM range, say 2.78 marks or even higher. The response from British industry is not hard to imagine.

Had the Bank been independent last summer, when sterling was in the ERM, how would it have prevented Black Wednesday? It could not have devalued the overvalued pound in good time, with control over the exchange rate and interest rates divided. Anyway, it would not have wanted to, judging by its published commentaries. It would, instead, have raised base rates, despite the prevailing view that the prolonged recession desperately required an easing of monetary policy.

The Bank could have told the Treasury that it could no longer hold the exchange rate without further rises in interest rates. The Treasury's logical response would then have been to devalue. But Mr Major had already ruled that out, to no uncertain terms.

In any case, devaluation in itself, without a monetary expansion, is of little help in raising a country out of recession. The two together are doing so just now. Sterling's decline in late 1989 and early 1990, with base rates at 15 per cent, did nothing to prevent the recession that started then. For both monetary and exchange rate policy to be effective in managing demand, in an



City or Whitehall line: Eddie George, Governor-designate, left, and Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor

economy as exposed to the outside world as Britain's, both instruments should be managed together.

An independent Bank might well have better luck to controlling inflation with a freely floating exchange such as the Federal Reserve enjoys in America. But Britain has never really favoured a policy of complete neglect of the exchange rate, except during the first few months of Margaret Thatcher's government. In the event of a return to the ERM, central bank independence might help to maintain the necessary confidence in sterling for a limited time, perhaps two or three years. Then the policy conflict would be likely to arise again. In any case, both Mr Major and Kenneth Clarke, his new Chancellor, have virtually ruled out ERM re-entry during this Parliament.

At some stage, after sterling has rejoined the ERM, independence for the central bank might be appropriate. It would also be obligatory under the Maastricht treaty before the "examination" for stage three of the programme for Economic and Monetary Union, which would introduce a single currency. EMU can be seen as the ideal at the end of this rainbow. Under that regime, Britain would no longer have an exchange rate with countries with which it conducts over half its trade and therefore have no more sterling crises. The Bank would then merely be part of an independent Eurofed. Britain has not decided whether to enter EMU, having insisted on the option in the treaty allowing it until the examination in 1996 to declare its intentions. Britain could stay out of EMU and hence the ERM, indefinitely.

When it does reach the planned launch-pad, EMU will seem attractive, if only because industry and the City will be painfully aware of the disadvantages of being left out when other EC countries eliminate their intra-EC transactions costs and set up cross-border payments systems. Britain is likely to be a reluctant suitor, rushing to the altar at the last moment rather than being left in the lurch. Whether Britain will qualify, in terms of the entry tests, is another matter. As one of the conditions of entry is participation in the narrow band of the ERM for two years before the examination, the government would be wise to avoid forestalling its options in advance, any more than it has already by more or less ruling out re-entry into the ERM during this Parliament. Britain may stay out of EMU, but will have to fix its exchange rate to Europe's at some time.

In the meantime, and especially if EMU is deferred until 1999, the potential for conflict between exchange rate and interest-rate objectives would be high if the Bank were given full responsibility for monetary policy.

The author's study *One Money for Europe* was published this year by Macmillan.

interest in an esoteric area.

Writing this on a domestic computer/fax machine, I am totally persuaded of the effectiveness of modern electronics to position any information almost anywhere at the drop of a hat. These tools have given speculators, more than anyone, the priceless opportunity to rampage around in the money-shop, be they bulls or bears. To outsiders they appear to be out of control and certainly beyond the arms of individual governments. For that, at least, three cheers for Mr Soros.

Yours truly, J.R. Northeast, Moorlands Farm, Begelly, Kildgery, Pembrokeshire.

From the Building Societies Ombudsman and the Insurance Ombudsman Sir, Much of the media coverage of the 100-page National Consumer Council Report on Consumer Views of the Office of the Building Societies Ombudsman and the Insurance Ombudsman was inevitably based mainly on its press release. It is therefore particularly unfortunate as well as surprising that the latter document did not give a balanced view of the former.

In correspondence with one of the Chairmen of the NCC (Lady Wilcox) said: "We chose to highlight the negative perceptions of the schemes in the press release as those are the areas which need to be addressed."

I believe that the robust public debate that will follow the publication of this report can only strengthen your organisation in the long term. The report itself is carefully

drafted and well balanced, as is to be expected from the NCC. We agree with most of it. By contrast, the press release concentrated on the negative aspects, presumably in an attempt to gain media coverage. As a result of this distortion, which should not have been allowed to occur in a responsible body like the NCC, the "robust public debate" will sadly be based largely on a false premise. Significant and unnecessary damage may well also have been done to consumer perceptions of Ombudsman schemes which actually provide major benefits for the general public.

Yours faithfully, STEPHEN EDELL and BRIAN MURPHY, The Office of the Building Societies Ombudsman, Grosvenor Gardens House, 35-37 Grosvenor Gdns, SW1, JULIAN FARRAND, The Insurance Ombudsman Bureau, CityGate One, 135 Park Street, SE1.

From the Minister of State, Foreign & Commonwealth Office Sir, Your article (June 8) headlined "UK wary of doing business with Korea" about the Taejeon Expo gives your readers a very misleading impression.

The Foreign & Commonwealth Office is taking the lead in organising UK participation in Taejeon in a joint effort with the Department of Trade and Industry and several British companies. Enthusiasm is strong. We are taking the maximum space allowed to overseas exhibitors, and our pavilion will at least match those of any other EC country. Our Ambassador in Seoul has already visited Taejeon 19 times.

This cannot possibly be seen, as your article suggests, as a sign of lack of interest or a snub to the Koreans. Nor is it true that there are no plans for a Ministerial visit to Taejeon — there are. Far from being "wary of doing business" with Korea we have supported a series of substantial and successful promotional activities at the time of and since the recent visit by the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Your correspondent also refers oddly to Richard Needham, the Trade Minister, "missing out" Korea from his recent tour of South East Asia — a different region altogether — as did the Foreign Secretary. Our commercial and other relations with the Republic of Korea are excellent. Yours faithfully, ALASTAIR GOODLAD, Minister of State, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, SW1.

## TEMPUS

### Ringing wrong numbers

DEVELOPMENTS in the BT3 sale display an intriguing mix of confidence and desperation. Confidence on the part of SG Warburg, the Treasury's adviser, which feels so assured about the demand that it can bully institutions into line over the sale and simultaneously pare discounts on the retail offer.

Desperation from the Treasury, which is keen that the issue should be as aggressively priced as possible to make a better impact on the government's yawning budget deficit.

Private investors will be distinctly displeased that their incentives have been reduced. By the time the price is struck, the discounts on the two instalments are likely to be worth less than 5 per cent of the total price, against 8.6 per cent for BT2.

Warburg argues that this only reflects the fall in interest rates in the past two years. This

argument ignores the fact that the time value of the instalment system has also fallen by 40 per cent. Unless this is corrected by institutions in the tender offer by widening the discount, BT3 applicants could lose all ways.

The only consolation is the government's confirmation that buyers will receive the final dividend for last year, which puts the part-paid retail shares on a first-year yield of at least 10 per cent. Assuming BT offers an 8 per cent increase in its interim payout early next year, that figure is closer to 11 per cent. That is more than twice the return on building society deposits, which is a similar ratio to the BT2 issue. But it is only marginally more than yields on fully paid long-dated gilts. Private investors will fondly remember the initial BT privatisation, when the government seemed keen to give money away.

### East Midlands

THERE is a certain justice that East Midlands shares are the worst performers of the regional electricity distributors since privatisation at the end of 1990. The company typifies all that is wrong with the industry and that particular state sale but it seems a little hard on its managers, who are in themselves no worse than any others.

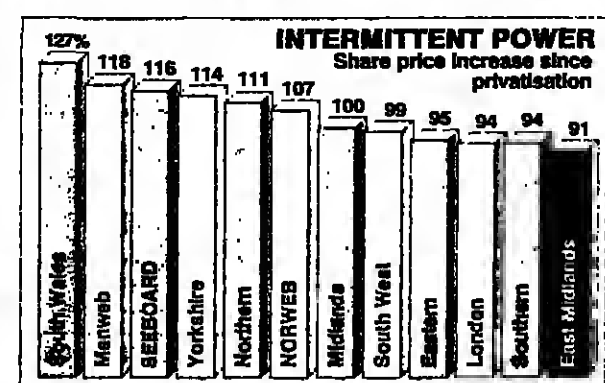
East Midlands was the go-ahead, entrepreneurial member of the 12, which is why it bought an electrical contracting business at the height of the recession two years ago at a price that even then was regarded as expensive.

Then, heaven help it, the company revealed a plan to buy a chunk of British Coal. The energy services business remains a disaster, as does retailing, now merged with

the equally unhappy Yorkshire Electricity operation. The latter might at last generate cash from the start of next year.

Such a record could have sunk a lesser company. But unwise diversification remains academic to a group with a strong cash flow assured until the unlikely day the industry regulator

turns off the tap. East Midlands can easily afford a 14 per cent dividend jump and a 6 per cent prospective yield will comfort shareholders who have seen all other REC shares outstrip theirs. Indeed, apart from the provisions, which should help future profits, the dividend cover would have been unchanged.



### BET

SHAREHOLDERS in BET could be forgiven if they feel short-changed by their company. Having stood by during two painful years of reconstruction, and provided the necessary equity last year to allow the company to escape from its debt trap, they have been rewarded by another cut in the dividend. It is a bitter pill, even though it was predicted by the market and Tempus last February, particularly since the company is now cash positive.

The decision to cut the dividend reflects how far the business has come since John Clark became chief executive in 1991. Since then, he has sold or merged 80 of its operating units and squeezed out £230 million in working capital. Only now has it become clear that the remaining businesses do not generate the profits to support a higher payout.

BET needs further radical surgery. It may have halved the number of its reporting units to 80, but still carries revenue from a diverse and sometimes bizarre portfolio, which includes African ho-

tels, joinery in Holland and the rights to the *Return of the Pink Panther* film.

Further on, it is still questionable whether the group can support as many as seven core service businesses. Mr Clark and his team will review this in a year's time when the business has been stripped to its essentials.

At least the bulk of the provisions should be out of the way, and the business should return to profitability. At 11p, the shares trade at more than 18 times next year's earnings and yield 3.8 per cent on the lower dividend. There is still too much work to be done for the shares to be chased.

### Output prices

THE Central Statistical Office served up a useful pick-me-up for Kenneth Clarke, at the start of what promises to be a testing week in his new job as Chancellor. The producer price figures confirmed that he still has considerable scope to float his economic strategy without a sudden inflationary squall sinking it in the harbour.

Although input prices re-

gained forward momentum in May, following a sharp fall in April, edging the year-on-year rate to 7.5 per cent, manufacturers are still capable of offsetting this by improvements in unit labour costs. As a result, output costs, excluding food drink and tobacco, fell 0.1 of a percentage point.

Unless consumer demand of industrial output rises sharply in the second half of the year, there seems no reason to fear that this pattern will change radically. Most of the companies that have produced results in the past few weeks have reported that their cost cutting measures succeeded in 1992 and that they have similar efficiency drives planned for the current year. This leaves Mr Clark with the option to cut interest rates again without fear of overheating. Such a cut would be particularly welcome if other economic data, such as M4 growth or manufacturing output, suggests the recovery is faltering. The City will pay particular regard to Mr Clarke's Mansion House speech tonight to discover if such a cut is at the forefront of his thinking.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Maxwell and the numbers game

ROBERT Maxwell, late, unimpeached publisher-turned-seafarer, knew his number was up at least six months before he went over the side of the *Lady Ghislaine* yacht in November 1991. David Lee, head of investigations at Price Waterhouse, administrator of Maxwell Communication Corporation, has discovered a letter written by the tycoon on May 13, 1991 in reply to a request for financial assistance by a charitable organisation. The letter from Mark Tanzer in Maxwell's office said that publisher had decided "with regret" that he was unable to offer his support on the occasion in question. It continued: "As he knows you will appreciate, this is in no way a reflection on the merit of the proposal. It is simply that he has to choose from finite resources between all the worthy schemes for which his help is sought." The reply was addressed to Gill Hankey, fund-raising officer of the Association of Bankrupts. One can only hope for the sake of his pride that Kevin Maxwell did not go calling after he was made Britain's biggest bankrupt last September 1992 personal debts of £406 million.

### His new forte

ROCCO Forte is continuing the reshuffling of the board he inherited from Lord Forte, his father, with the appointment of a new finance director designate, Keith Hamill, from United Distillers. Hamill will take over from Donald Main when the latter retires at the start of 1995, but joins Forte in

September as chief financial officer. He arrives with the necessary heavyweight credentials as a member of the Accounting Standards Board's Urgent Issues Task Force and the CBI's Companies Committee. Main will now spend more time wrestling with Forte's huge debts and planned disposal programme.

### Party hopper

MEMBERS of the Barclays Bank public relations team, battered and storm-tossed by months of criticism, took time off to enjoy themselves last week... and found there is no escape from their woes. The occasion was a performance at the Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, of the *Living Lindy Hoppers*, a dance group sponsored in part by the bank through its backing for fringe theatre. Several distinguished critics and guests — notably Jasper Conran, the fashion designer — were mingling with performers at an after-show drinks party when a drunken



"Can't talk long - it says 150p first payment"

tramp stumbled down the stairs and disappeared into the crowd before the hosts realised that he was not a member of the cast. Or a Barclays director.

### Smudged

NICHOLAS Flower has rapped over his knuckles with a ballpoint pen for smudging the history of the instrument. Flower, a former company secretary of Formento, the licensor of the so-called Biro ballpen patents, points out that the principal licensee was the Miles Martin Pen Company. This latter became Biro Pens Ltd and it acquired Mable Todd & Co, famous for the Swan fountain pen. This in turn became Biro Swan and was taken over by Baron Bich and did not, as the *City Diary* suggested, sell the patent for the Biro ballpoint to Baron Bich, famous to France for the Bic pen.

### Mason's mischief

SYDNEY Mason, outgoing chairman of Hammerson, the property group, had a few less than flattering remarks for his successors at yesterday's annual meeting on Park Lane. Mason, retiring after 44 years, slipped in a sly dig at Rainer Vogt, deputy managing director, who has served the group for a similarly long period. "He's almost a piece of antique furniture to the building," said Mason — a remark which renders himself worthy of a part in *Jurassic Park*. Stephen Spielberg's new dinosaur blockbuster. There was such a crowd that a video camera relayed proceedings to those who could not fit inside.

JON ASHWORTH

### Plain speaking Soros impresses

From Mr J.R. Northeast Sir, Your publication of the Open Letters exchange between Messrs Soros and Kaletsky was salutary in a number of particulars. Eschewing the righteousness of any argument, I found myself sedulously impressed by Mr Soros' (Business Analysis, June 9th) simplicity of language in an area constantly obscured by the arcane jargon of economists and "bank-speakers". Secondly, I could not fail to be affected by his transparent candour. Thirdly, in a few short, sharp lines he gave a view of the fickleness and volatility of the contemporary foreign exchange market and its modus operandi which had the merit of obliging us in the lay public to engage our

interest in an esoteric area.

Writing this on a domestic computer/fax machine, I am totally persuaded of the effectiveness of modern electronics to position any information almost anywhere at the drop of a hat. These tools have given speculators, more than anyone, the priceless opportunity to rampage around in the money-shop, be they bulls or bears. To outsiders they appear to be out of control and certainly beyond the arms of individual governments. For that, at least, three cheers for Mr Soros.

Yours truly, J.R. Northeast, Moorlands Farm, Begelly, Kildgery, Pembrokeshire.

### NCC twisted facts

From the Building Societies Ombudsman and the Insurance Ombudsman Sir, Much of the media coverage of the 100-page National Consumer Council Report on Consumer Views of the Office of the Building Societies Ombudsman and the Insurance Ombudsman was inevitably based mainly on its press release. It is therefore particularly unfortunate as well as surprising that the latter document did not give a balanced view of the former.

In correspondence with one of the Chairmen of the NCC (Lady Wilcox) said: "We chose to highlight the negative perceptions of the schemes in the press release as those are the areas which need to be addressed."

I believe that the robust public debate that will follow the publication of this report can only strengthen your organisation in the long term. The report itself is carefully

### UK not wary of trade with Korea

From the Minister of State, Foreign & Commonwealth Office Sir, Your article (June 8) headlined "UK wary of doing business with Korea" about the Taejeon Expo gives your readers a very misleading impression.

The Foreign & Commonwealth Office is taking the lead in organising UK participation in Taejeon in a joint effort with the Department of Trade and Industry and several British companies. Enthusiasm is strong. We are taking the maximum space allowed to overseas exhibitors, and our pavilion will at least match those of any other EC country. Our Ambassador in Seoul has already visited Taejeon 19 times.

This cannot possibly be seen, as your article suggests, as a sign of lack of interest or a snub to the Koreans. Nor is it true that there are no plans for a Ministerial visit to Taejeon — there are. Far from being "wary of doing business" with Korea we have supported a series of substantial and successful promotional activities at the time of and since the recent visit by the Prince and Princess of Wales.

### Setting pension fund surplus levels

From Mr J.J. Michell Sir, It is becoming likely, in addition to all other reasons why companies should be enabled to reclaim excessive pension fund surpluses, that employers will come to view defined benefit schemes as just too diverting to bother with for much longer.

A solution seems quite simple: specify by statute levels of surplus which, if exceeded in two or three consecutive years, can or must invoke a new re-claim procedure. The reporting scheme actuary would be obliged to provide a certificate, which would also show projections of benefit for all present and potential pensioners, and report compliance with the scheme's rules. To return capital, schemes would need unsevered parentage with the scheme's parent companies. All such would need, for each qualifying year, an unqualified audit report (or its equivalent successor) and compliance with SSAP24. Boards would be obliged to declare all receiving businesses to be going concerns in every communication in pursuing the re-claim (and directors to be personally liable for mis-statements, statutorily outlawed insurance). Given this pattern, the In-

land Revenue would be asked for commissioners to approve a scheme of arrangement for repayment. With their certificate, the High Court would be empowered to approve the scheme, and the result would be a trust with two years' life, and the Court, the Revenue and a consulting actuary as joint trustees. After a period of four months, the trust would return the sanctioned surplus portion, monthly, in 20 payments in return for fresh certificates from the fund's trustees and the company boards stating no material change in the company's liability profiles.

This could be put through by Christmas in a short, simple Act with a couple of statutory instruments. And something like it is badly overdue. Yours faithfully, J.J. MICHELL, 18 Park View, Hatch End, Pinner, Middlesex.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of *The Times* can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

## THE TIMES

### RENTALS

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## Prices squeezed higher

(90)		Price	%	Yld	P/E	(90)		Price	%	Yld	P/E
High	Low	Company	Chg	Vol		High	Low	Company	Chg	Vol	
134	126	INT CORP	25	1	5.6	25.7	108	141	LACMIN	20	1
135	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	109	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
136	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	110	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
137	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	111	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
138	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	112	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
139	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	113	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
140	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	114	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
141	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	115	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
142	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	116	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
143	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	117	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
144	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	118	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
145	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	119	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
146	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	120	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
147	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	121	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
148	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	122	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
149	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	123	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
150	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	124	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
151	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	125	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
152	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	126	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
153	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	127	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
154	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	128	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
155	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	129	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
156	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	130	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
157	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	131	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
158	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	132	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
159	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	133	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
160	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	134	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
161	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	135	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
162	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	136	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
163	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	137	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
164	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	138	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
165	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	139	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
166	126	INTL. CO. OF	1	1	5.6	25.7	140	141	COE TOWNS	10	1
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## Ringling the changes for answer services

By Rodney Hobson

SWEEPING changes to the phone system mean that small businesses can have a receptionist-cum-secretary at their command. Traditional answering services face new competition from rivals making fuller use of the digital telephone lines that are now available to more than 90 per cent of subscribers.

In the past, callers have been aware they are talking to an answering service. Answerlink, based in Southwark, London, has telephonists that do not let the caller know that he or she has failed to get through to the number dialled. The switchboard operators become effectively the personal secretaries of Answerlink's subscribers.

The system is common in America, where eight million subscribers are linked to 4,500 answering services. Malcolm Harris, who founded Answerlink in America, estimates that the potential UK market at one million subscribers, enough to keep up to 1,000 companies like Answerlink in profit.

He started the service in March and has more than 200 clients. He charges £25 a month for his basic service. Clients pay 50p a call, with the first 30 calls each month free. When a call is diverted to Answerlink, a short code number flashes up. The operator puts the number into a computer that tells her the precise form of words that the client wishes her to use in answering the call. All messages taken are typed

into the computer and are tape-recorded. Clients call in at their convenience to listen to the recordings of messages left for them. If there is any doubt over a message, they can ask to speak to the operator who took the original call.

Another difference from conventional answering services is that Answerlink gives out information, such as the rental rates of a car hire firm. Mr Harris said: "To have an operator say 'good morning, Bloomsbury, how can I help you?' is so much more professional than leaving an answering machine on or having your wife answer with a baby screaming and a dog barking in the background."



"Are you going to talk up to me or shall I talk down to you?"

## Name of the game is success

By Sally Watts

JOHN Slade is a weekend entrepreneur. While working full time for Barclays Bank, he has built up his board games design business. Until now, the games have been targeted at people who, like himself, are blind, but recently he has started to extend his market.

Indirectly, the recession has proved an incentive. With cuts being made in bank jobs, he volunteered last year to work only four days a week, putting his extra free time into his company, Slade Colour Board Games.

He said: "I took advantage of my shorter week as a bank telephonist to look at the business's image. Games for blind and sighted people have always had separate markets, but I'm interested in games they can play together."

Mr Slade was born with just a little sight in one eye, and is registered blind. His wife, Deirdre, looks after the products and materials, keeps the books and does the paperwork.

Mr Slade has long been a spare-time designer and inventor, making his children's toys. His first commercial step was to design buttons that could be identified by shape. A square stood for black, a circle for white, a daisy for yellow and so on, through 16 varieties. The buttons, made by a company specialising in plastic moulding, are featured in the Engineering Council's new brochure, *A Vision of Technological Research*. Early in the 1980s, he set up his business,



On the bottom: John Slade displays some of the special board games he designed for the blind

designing and producing board games, at his home in Ilford, Essex. He began with small grants from St Dunstan's and the Royal National Institute for the Blind: his annual turnover, which has increased each year, is currently £36,000.

As well as games which he has devised himself, there are old favourites such as Ludo and Snakes and Ladders; these are tactile and based largely on graph-

ics, with aids such as triangles to point the player in the right direction. All Mr Slade's games have tactile/visual dice.

Now he has set up JS Traditional Board Games, a subsidiary company manufacturing quality games for the general public, and backed by a £7,000 overdraft facility. A version of Chinese checkers is just going on sale at the RNIB. Mr Slade also hopes to market it at leading stores. For some years, he

and his wife manufactured the games at home, but since 1990 they have contracted the work to a toy manufacturer in Suffolk. Recently, Mr Slade started sending his games to America and selling the buttons in Germany.

Mr Slade now hopes to produce a chess set for blind and sighted people and to visit Strasbourg this month with fellow members of View (Venture Into European Workplace) to help boost exports.

### BRIEFINGS

An equity fund of 5 million euros (£3.9 million) is to be set up to encourage partnerships between small and medium-sized enterprises in EC states and those in developing countries. Money from the fund, established by the European Commission with the International Financial Corporation, is expected to go mainly to companies in the poorer countries of Latin America, Asia and the Mediterranean region, but it could still present an opportunity for British businesses. This is because businesses in EC states will qualify if they are creating direct links with those in developing countries.

□ The DTI's Enterprise Roadshow is on the move again - until mid-October. The vehicle consists of an exhibition with displays by local TECs, two seminar/counselling rooms and an office. Information and timetable: 071-215 5000.

□ South Thames Training and Enterprise Council is holding a festival, with events at various sites on July 20 to 22 to highlight business opportunities in Lambeth, Southwark, Lewisham and Greenwich. Information: Kirsten Hughes, 071-538 1322.

□ A Cambridge Business College weekend course aimed at generating ideas for new businesses will be held at Newnham College, Cambridge, on July 10 and 11. Cost is £95, exclusive of VAT. Details: 0223 63159.

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# LAW

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Not entirely an angel: Judge Starforth Hill on an eight-year-old victim of a sexual attack



Ordered a 15-year-old rapist to pay for a holiday for his young victim, and set him free: Judge Prosser

## Hold your tongue, m'lud

Frances Gibb says that training for judges may be the solution to insensitive remarks

Judge Starforth Hill's comment last week that an eight-year-old victim of a sexual attack was "not entirely an angel" is refuelling the debate on judges' training. His remark prompted a predictable furore, but regrettably it was not that unusual.

There are numerous instances in which judges — often as they simultaneously hand out what the public considers a ridiculously light sentence — deliver off-the-cuff comments that annoy others even more. Judge Bertrand Richards in 1982 said that a teenage hitch-hiker, raped after thumbing a lift late at night, was "guilty of a great deal" of contributory negligence. The judge, who never again presided over sex cases, had let off the rapist, a businessman, with a fine of £2,000. Mr Justice Leonard, the judge in the Ealing vicarage rape case, prompted an outcry when he commented that the victim's trauma was "not so great".

In the wake of this latest rumour, calls are being made for a radical reform of the way judges are prepared for the bench so that they handle such cases more sensitively; and in particular, the idea is being floated of a judicial training college, so would-be judges can be put through a fuller and more structured training course than the four-day core session they receive now. Lord Williams of Mostyn, until recently chairman of the Bar and now an opposition legal affairs spokesman in the Lords, says training for judges is "inappropriately scanty".

Judges' training — judges prefer to say "seminars" — is run by the Judicial Studies Board. Under Lord Justice Farquharson, the board has been highly successful in developing training and persuading judges of the need for it, but its resources are limited.

Would-be judges in the criminal courts start judging part-time as assistant recorders, then as recorders and finally may be appointed to circuit bench. The training for new assistant recorders consists mainly of a 45-day course, in which two sessions



Told the woman in the Ealing vicarage rape case that her ordeal was 'not so great': Mr Justice Leonard



'Guilty of a great deal of contributory negligence': Judge Richards to a teenage hitch-hiker raped late at night



Refused to jail a former policeman for indecent assault of his step-daughter: Judge Sir Harold Cassel

are specifically devoted to "sex" cases, as well as a classroom exercise on sentencing.

There is a two-week "pupillage", sitting alongside an experienced judge. Once on the bench, judges also attend seminars, lectures and other "training" events, including occasional weekend refresher courses. But this Judicial Studies Board programme is increasingly being seen as barely enough. "The board does good work" but it is grossly under-resourced," Lord Williams says. "It can't provide proper training and monitoring of what training is needed if it doesn't get the cash. Nor is there any effective on-the-job training. If judges have been on the bench for 15 or possibly 20 years, by definition they are out of touch. Anyone can benefit from some re-training."

In the civil courts, and since the Children Act 1989 came into force, there is a corps of more than 50 circuit judges who have been specifically

designated as "family judges" and who have received training for childcare cases. But on the criminal side, the new judge may deal with a murder one day, a rape case the next, armed robbery the next.

Another QC, Helena Kennedy, says the training is "woefully inadequate". A few days' instruction, with occasional refresher, "cannot be sufficient grounding for the novice judge".

The question of insensitivity on the bench raises, she says, the shortage of women judges. "The strength of public outcry in the recent case of Judge Prosser,

who let a 15-year-old rapist go free after ordering him to pay for a holiday for his 15-year-old schoolgirl victim, prompted calls from MPs to ban male judges from sitting on such cases. Later, the appeal court defended the judge, saying he had been "clearly troubled" by the case and did not deserve the "vilification" he had suffered. Banning male judges has little support, but the lack

of female influence in judicial decision-making is evident. One way forward, Ms Kennedy believes, is to create a judicial appointments commission to help boost the numbers of women on the bench.

Another proposal has come from David Pannick QC. He argues the need for "informed debate" on whether the Judicial Studies Board's work should be expanded into a judicial training college where recruits would spend more than four days "learning the skills required for the profession".

There is also the matter of discipline. How do judges make their remarks and get away with it? The answer is enshrined in the catch-all phrase, "judicial independence." Because of the accepted need to ensure that judges are not looking over their shoulders when they make their decisions, they are not easily removed from office.

A High Court judge can be removed only by an order of both houses of Parliament. A circuit judge can be sacked by the Lord Chancellor for "incapacity" or "misbehaviour", but these terms are not defined. Only one judge has been sacked in recent memory:

Judge Campbell. In 1983, he admitted a smuggling offence. Others have been recommended. In 1988, Judge Sir Harold Cassel refused to jail a former policeman for the indecent assault of his 12-year-old step-daughter.

He said the man was driven to it because his wife's pregnancy had dimmed her sexual appetite, causing "considerable problems for a healthy young husband".

He was publicly rebuked by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, and he retired early on medical grounds soon after. A reprimand does not mean removal. Also, there are questions about whether tougher action — such as restricting certain judges from sitting on specific cases — should be taken when tactless remarks are made. Apart from the pain to victims and relatives, the comments do the judges no good. "What they do is to put right back the good work being done by Lord Taylor (Lord Chief Justice) in promoting openness and a more user-friendly judiciary," Lord Williams said.

"They are very damaging to the judges' image."

## When youngsters take over a court

THE public image of the magistrate is not a happy one. Even if we are no longer viewed as part of the blimpish colonel or twinsted-and-pearls brigade, we are still envisaged as a race apart. We may regard ourselves as ordinary members of the public but, after all, sitting in judgment upon others is an extraordinary position to hold.

Previously, efforts have been made to open up the magistracy and make the courts more understandable, but without a great deal of success. What is helping now is the Schools' Project. So obvious an idea it is amazing it has not been tried before. The project aims to show pupils who magistrates are, how they are appointed and explain the criminal justice system.

It began with a pilot scheme in Reading in 1991 and was the brainchild of Rosemary Thomson, deputy chairman of the Magistrates' Association and Richard Grobler, deputy secretary of commissions in the Lord Chancellor's department. Seeking advice from a magistrate, who also happened to be a schools inspector in charge of community education, they found that such a project would fit into the personal and social education part of the national curriculum.

Mrs Thomson and other volunteers talked to branches and committees, persuading their members to find magistrates willing to take a risk and go to schools. "The magistrates go into schools in pairs," Mrs Thomson says. "They talk to the 14 to 16-year-olds about who and what they are, get them to sit in three, like a bench of magistrates, to listen to a case; make findings and judgments and then do a sentencing exercise. Later they are taken to see a real court in action. A colleague who has completed his visits found the teenagers' degree of interest surprising."

"The findings of the benches are often utterly different. In one case nine benches found the defendant guilty, six did not."

Having just attended a magistrates' training day myself, the scenario sounds familiar. However, the young are far more punitive in their "lock 'em up and throw away the key" mentality.

Reports on the success, or otherwise, of the project are expected to be available during the summer — it has taken time to become accepted into the schools. Yet now the schools are approaching the Magistrates' Association directly thanks to a little-known, but remarkable organisation, called the Citizenship Foundation, which has built up relations with more than 2,500 schools. In the 1960s, long before the term "citizen" became a hackneyed buzz word, a young

solicitor, Andrew Phillips, became increasingly concerned about ordinary people's lack of knowledge of the law. In 1966 he persuaded the headmaster of a secondary school to let him give a weekly talk. "My year there was very encouraging and rewarding," he says. "There was an intrinsic interest in moral and legal issues. Working through the students' views I found that ordinary people felt patronised by the law. They were not given a chance to understand and feel part of a system."

"All the work reinforced the fact that some of the youngsters, who thought most deeply about these issues, were the recalcitrant pupils who hadn't bothered much about academic work. For the first time, the so-called dullards were outshining the elite."

When asked what it is that attracts pupils to the subject of the law, Mr Phillips cannot resist the comment that "it reaches the parts that other subjects cannot reach". In 1975, the Law Society commissioned him to write a resource book for schools called *The Living Law*. "More ambitious plans were hatched and we got the Law in Education project going in 1984. The Law Society put up about £300,000 for this and kept it running beyond the designated three-year period up to 1989," he said.

Since the Law Society felt unable to give a further extension to the project, Mr Phillips set up the Citizenship Foundation to continue the work. One of its most successful initiatives has been the National Mock Trial Competition for schools. I attended this year's final in March at Southwark Crown Court in London. The professionalism of the pupils taking part was astounding. A boy on the winning team turned out to be only 16.

Almost 2,000 pupils from 128 schools were competing in this Bar Council-sponsored exercise where the pupils play every part, from advocates and witnesses to court staff and jurors.

Lord Justice Farquharson, who presided over the final, described it as remarkable and an immensely valuable way of introducing the law and all its complications to young adults.

More people are beginning to know the law, however, thanks to a huge effort on the part of individuals and a more open-minded attitude at the top of the legal tree. If this demystifying of the law continues, we might one day find that the court is recognised as a place for the people rather than for its practitioners.

● The author is chairman of an inner London youth court.



PAULA DAVIES

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# FRES

## LEGAL SECTION

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## As clear as a lawyer?

CLARITY — the group of lawyers dedicated to ridding the profession of Latin tags and linguistic obfuscation — has celebrated its tenth anniversary.

Mark Adler, chairman of the group, which has more than 400 members, says: "When we started, colleagues looked on us as cranks. Now they tend to be ashamed of their old-fashioned style."

But he laments the pace of change. "Most lawyers still write like badly educated dinosaurs," he says. A recent survey showed that most lawyers believe they do write clearly. Even more astonishing was the finding that they thought if they did express



themselves plainly, they would be misunderstood.

**Floored jewel**  
CHICHESTER Rents, the courtrooms in Chancery Lane designed to take on the Blue Arrow and Barlow Clowes trials and one of the jewels in the crown of 20th-century courtrooms, may be structurally unsound, according to the Bar magazine, *Counsel*.

The environment department is worried about the floor loadings and work is to start soon to investigate the problem.

**Housing appeal**  
A GROUP of Labour MPs is trying to persuade John Gummer, the environment secretary, to challenge the Court of Appeal's decision in a case brought by the London

borough of Tower Hamlets, east London, in April.

The court ruled that housing officers can check immigration papers and make decisions about their validity without consulting immigration authorities.

The MPs assert that this is beyond housing officers' competence and may well lead to unjust refusals of housing and race discrimination. The court's decision overruled previous guidance issued by the environment department.

### Big issue

FIRST there was sexism, then ageism, and now there is fatism. Discriminating against fat people could be



Appeal: John Gummer

outlawed in New York state if a bill put forward by David Feldman, a Brooklyn Assembly member, makes headway. It aims to eliminate discrimination against fat, short and tall people in employment, housing and education.

### Figured out

MARY ARDEN QC, whose promotion to Mrs Justice Arden makes her the Chancery division's only woman High Court judge, has cleared up confusion about whether accounting standards are legally enforceable.

In an opinion for the Accounting Standards Board, the judge, a leading company-law expert, says that the courts are likely to treat accountant standards as legally binding and that compliance with them is likely to be found necessary if the "true and fair" requirement in company accounts is to be met.

### Helping hands

THE City Solicitors' Educational Trust, through which City law firms give money for teaching of law in universities, wants to see more smaller firms involved. This year it is making grants to 20 universities to support projects worth about £364,000. But Richard Youard, the trust administrator, is disappointed that smaller firms have not felt able to become subscribers.

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We offer a competitive salary and a comprehensive large company benefits package.

Please write in the first instance with a full CV and details of your remuneration expectations to: Susie Proctor, Group Personnel, Royal Insurance plc, 17 New Hall Place, PO Box 144, Liverpool L63 3EN.

Closing date for applications: 30th June 1993.

**Royal Insurance**

سكس في الامم



Should we put our trust in the American system, ask Mike McConville and Chester Mirsky

# A plea against bargaining

Those wanting to see the introduction of plea bargaining in England should watch the documentary, *New York Law*, tomorrow night. It will offer insights that could give reason to pause.

In New York City's system of plea bargaining, judges play a dominant role in resolving and sentencing criminal cases.

In the early stages of a case, for example, how many defendants would continue to insist on a trial, in the face of the judge offering, in return, to oppose bail, suggesting pre-trial detention at Riker's Island?

Does the defendant have the nerve to assert his or her innocence in a system in which defendants are mostly black and hispanic people and in which the sentence has become the only negotiable commodity? And can a defendant resist the disparity in the sentence (multiples of two and often three-fold) imposed on those convicted after trial?

*New York Law* gives some answers by showing that plea bargaining has become a war of attrition in which a defendant's capitation has replaced jury trials, and in which judicial subjectivity and the personalising of the case takes precedence over objectivity.

What counts in this system is what the judge thinks of a defendant. His or her opinion is formed from a two-minute court encounter and a glance at the prosecutor's two-line case summary and the defendant's criminal record.

Perhaps most troubling is the show's revelation that open-court plea bargaining enables the judge's personality to emerge from behind the mask of impartiality, pitting one individual, clothed in the robes of the state, against another, standing at the bar of justice.

This confrontation between the powerful and powerless may not be nakedly coercive in every instance but, depending on the nature and personality of the judge, permits displays of anger and displeasure aimed at shaking the will of those who resist.

America's inner cities have long been hit by social unrest, the causes of which are usually ascribed to an underclass defined by race and socio-economic status. Lawyers and judges expect black and hispanic defendants to dominate New York's criminal justice system because people of colour are viewed stereotypically as troublemakers. *New York Law* shows that resistance by these races is seen as an affront to a judicial system intent on upholding middle-class mores.

The conditions for reproducing the failures of the American system through plea bargaining are already in place in England. Here, young people of Afro-Caribbean origin are widely seen by the law as criminogenic; most defendants with that background are unemployed and in receipt of welfare benefits; they assert their right to go to trial more often than their white counterparts; and statistical research shows that almost 40 per cent of English judges sentenced black defendants more harshly than whites.

Judicial plea bargaining is thus likely to exacerbate a situation in which black people are already over-represented in the English prison population.

The programme shows how the process of plea bargaining transforms defence lawyers from adversaries to adjunct prosecutors, whose sole purpose is to persuade the defendant to plead guilty. The defence attorney conveys to defendants the draconian penalties that



Time for a deal: a defendant and lawyer in a scene from the television programme, *New York Law*

judges will impose on those who dare to insist on trial and are later convicted by a jury. The programme shows how, should the defendant doubt the threat, the judge emphasises his intention to obtain a plea of guilt so all those present are clear as to the worthlessness of the presumption of innocence.

But how does the system answer the allegations of arm-twisting and endangering the innocent? Defendants, it is said, make a voluntary decision when confronted with unpleasant choices. "Voluntariness" is thus indistinguishable from ac-

cession to coercion. Moreover, nobody denies that this system convicts innocent people.

The programme explains how plea bargaining transforms a judicial system, nominally concerned with adjudicating criminal disputes involving individuals, into a cog in the state social-control apparatus applied to classes of people based on race and socio-economic status.

The question is not whether we in England can afford to run a system without judicial plea bargaining; rather the question is whether we

are prepared to tolerate the inevitable consequences of its introduction into English law: innocent people coerced into pleading guilty; defence lawyers reduced to hapless messengers; and judges elevated on the basis of their ability to expedite the processing without trial. Some prices are not worth paying.

Professor Michael McConville, director of Legal Research Institute at Warwick University, and Professor Chester Mirsky, professor of clinical law, New York University, were consultants to *New York Law* (BBC1 tomorrow, 9.30pm).

## Moving up and on to the board

Fresh faces have appeared in positions of power. Who are they and how are they going to go about making changes?

Early summer is the handover period in law firms. New managing and senior partners take the reins, experienced partners move from one firm to another, and new partners are "made up", as they say in the profession.

Who are the fresh faces? One is Jonathan Lewis, the recently elected chief executive at D.J. Freeman. He is one of those with most to look forward to. The past few years have not been happy ones at the firm, despite its strength in insolvency work. However, with vigorous management by David Solomon the firm pulled through and has now stabilised.

To deal with difficulties, my predecessor David Solomon really had to transform the firm and put in place a completely new business strategy," Mr Lewis says.

The kind of trauma undergone by D.J. Freeman either destroys a partnership or pulls it together. Mr Lewis feels that having come through fire and brimstone together, a new consensus has emerged upon which he can now build.

Keith Clark, who has just taken over as senior partner at Clifford Chance, faces another kind of opportunity. Having got through the recession less badly mauled than some predicted, he is keen the firm should resupply its massive weight to fulfilling its international role. Just one more heave, it seems, is needed to make Clifford Chance the first genuinely integrated international law firm with a single status partnership. If Mr Clark can manage this it will represent a landmark in the development of legal services world wide.

This is a cultural and social challenge as much as anything, but the outward manifestation of the firm's achievement of its goal would be a string of new offices. It has recently opened in Barcelona (to complement its Madrid office) and is expecting to continue with

this process around the world. To complement the openings there is also a renewed emphasis on common core training, on secondments, and research and development so that all lawyers whatever their jurisdiction develop a common, firm-wide outlook with consistent standards of service.

This has all the echoes of the accountants Arthur Andersen's approach to business, but Mr Clark is adamant that the firm should not be identified primarily with one city or country. "We are not a London-based firm," he says. "We are an international law firm and I would regard a cosmopolitan attitude as essential for the lawyers who want to make their career with us."

The only off-limits area for Clifford Chance is likely to be the United States. While elsewhere it wishes to develop strong local practices — as it has in France and Spain, for example — America remains perhaps the only market not susceptible to that approach.

American clients are, however, the new targets for Dibs Lupton Broomhead, the Yorkshire firm which has recently set up a base in London. The speed of advance by Dibs has been startling and it is now moved into its next phase by attracting Stuart Benson, one of the best-known city litigators.

As the former marketing partner at Turner Kenneth Brown, Mr Benson's departure caused a significant stir. His motive in joining a leading "regional" firm, however, was largely because he feels that the initiative in the national market has now moved decisively in favour of energetic regional practices.

"A lot of city firms have gone soft," says Mr Benson vigorously. "They've forgotten what service is all about. But the firms outside London have not forgotten that message — and that's why I'm glad I joined one."

EDWARD FENNELL



Chief: Jonathan Lewis

## Chambers

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### The International Lawyer

Industry as a career choice offers many advantages compared with private practice. It is, for example, the last resort of the generalist, where commercial lawyers can continue to practise their skills in a remarkably wide range of important corporate transactions, relying on outside solicitors or barristers for specialist expertise. Industry also offers the lawyer the chance to travel overseas, not just for the occasional conference but on a regular basis. With the multinational corporation engulfing most areas of industry, the in-house lawyer, who is not also an international lawyer, will soon be the rare exception.

In the twenty years we have been recruiting lawyers in industry, we have seen their overseas involvement increase significantly. They would always handle international work to some degree, but now many of them are engaged on this work virtually full time. We have several vacancies at the moment which are based abroad, and we have others which, though based in the UK, are with companies that either expect their lawyers to relocate to several different continents in the course of their career progression or have so much legal work arising from their overseas operations that the lawyers are required to spend about one third of their time travelling.

Most of these vacancies, naturally, require familiarity with foreign languages — and some demand fluency. Fortunately for those whose skills are rusty, many companies offer language courses and welcome candidates keen to make use of them.

Michael Chambers

### For vacancies in INDUSTRY & BANKING ring Sonya Rayner.

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#### Legal Adviser: Switzerland

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London: David Jamyn, David Woolfson. South: Helen Mills. Midlands: Lauren Cochrane. North: Alison Diamond.

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#### Insurance Litigation: Central London

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#### Co/Commercial Partner: West End

Profitable niche firm with surplus work wishes to invest in senior sol with part-following. Work includes M&A, venture capital, MBOs, etc.

#### Head of Litigation: West End

Successful corporate firm with flourishing international practice seeks litigation partner with part-following to run newly established department.

#### Oil Lawyer: London

Solicitor or barrister with 2-4 yrs' commercial exp to join UK legal dept of well-known international oil co. Exp in the oil industry not essential. Must enjoy overseas travel.

#### Commercial Lawyer: Midlands

Sol or barrister with at least 2 yrs' commercial exp to join international manufacturing co. Work includes intellectual property matters and broad-based co/commercial law.

#### Landlord & Tenant: London

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#### Commercial Litigation: Berkshire

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### LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

## CORPORATE/COMMERCIAL LAWYER - PRAGUE

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## Court of Appeal

Law Report June 15 1993

## Court of Appeal

## Reports created risk of prejudice Careful use of specimen directions

Regina v Taylor (Michelle Ann)

Regina v Taylor (Lisa Jane)

Before Lord Justice McCowan, Mr Justice Douglas Brown and Mr Justice Tuckey

[Judgment June 11]

The press was no more entitled to assume that a defendant was guilty in what it reported during the course of a trial, than a police officer was entitled to assume a defendant was guilty and suppress evidence which he feared might lead to the defendant being acquitted.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in allowing appeals by Michelle Ann Taylor and Lisa Jane Taylor against their convictions in July 1992 at the Central Criminal Court (Mr Justice Beldford and a jury of murder).

Mr Richard Ferguson, QC and Mr Trevor Burke for the first appellant; Lady Maitland, QC and Mr Ian Bourne for the second appellant; Mr John Nutting and Miss Joanna Kerner, QC for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE MCCOWAN, giving the judgment of the court, said that the prosecution alleged that Allison Shaughnessy had stabbed Allison's husband, John, both before and after their marriage and Lisa was said to have assisted the way her sister had been treated.

Allison must have arrived home on June 3, 1991 at about 5.35pm. Her time of death was most likely to have been about 6.00pm, but with a margin of two hours either side. She was discovered by her husband John and the appellant Michelle at about 8.00pm.

She had received 54 stab wounds, one of which cut the carotid artery. Nothing about the force administered meant that it more likely to have been a man than a woman since it was not beyond the capacity of a woman. There was ample alibi evidence to exonerate John.

The prime ground of appeal concerned matters which only came to light when the cases were being prepared for appeal and their solicitors, advised by counsel, pressed the Crown Prosecution Service as to whether there was still any material which had not been disclosed.

As a result learned junior counsel were permitted to go to the police station to read a large number of documents relating to the case. One document which came to light recorded a message received by a police officer on August 4, 1991 from Dr Michael Unsworth-White stating that the second woman he saw leaving the Shaughnessy home at the relevant

time might have been black. His later statement said both women were blond.

Mr Nutting had conceded that he could not possibly argue that a failure to disclose an earlier inconsistent statement was not a material irregularity. Neither prosecuting counsel at the trial nor the Crown Prosecution Service had any idea of the existence of that document.

However, the detective sergeant in charge of the case did know of its existence and also its significance but decided there was no need to disclose it to the prosecuting legal team. He was plainly wrong in so thinking.

Another matter which at the time of the trial was totally unknown to counsel but was known to the police was the fact that Dr Unsworth-White had written to Barclays Bank on August 25, 1991 claiming the reward they were offering for information about the murder of their employee.

Mr Unsworth-White was a composed and impressive witness who would have cut a very different figure if that material had been available to allow the defence to cross-examine him.

The second matter of concern arose as a result of press coverage of the trial. In granting the appellants leave to appeal, the single judge described that coverage as "unremitting, extensive,

sensational, inaccurate and misleading". Having had the opportunity of reading a substantial selection of the newspaper reports in question, their Lordships saw no reason to dissent.

The newspapers had not limited themselves to anything said in court, most of it was not reporting at all, it was comment. During the trial defence counsel complained about that press coverage and the judge gave the jury several warnings that they should decide the case on the evidence before them but their Lordships found it quite impossible to say that the jury was not influenced in their decision by what they had read.

They were satisfied that the press coverage of the trial did create a real risk of prejudice against the defendants and for that reason as well as the convictions were unsafe and unsatisfactory and had to be quashed. Owing to the view taken of the way the case was reported, it was not right to order a retrial.

In allowing the appeal, the court further ordered that papers in the case be sent to the Attorney-General for him to consider whether any proceedings should be taken against the newspapers in question.

Solicitors: Andrew Keenan & Co, Peter Andrew Keenan & Co, Peter: Crown Prosecution Service, Central Courts.

Regina v Taylor (Anthony)

Before Lord Taylor of Gossford, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Ouse and Mr Justice Sedley

[Judgment June 10]

Specimen directions published by the Judicial Studies Board were to be used with the greatest care. They might be safely given verbatim in a straightforward case of a type for which the specimen direction had been expressly designed.

However, where the circumstances or issues in the case required some adaptation of the specimen direction care was to be taken to adapt it appropriately. Lord Taylor of Gossford, Lord Chief Justice, so stated when giving the judgment of the court allowing an appeal by Michael Anthony Taylor, aged 25, against conviction at Stafford Crown Court before Mr Justice Ward and a jury in November 1991 on counts of robbery from and rape of a prostitute, for which he was sentenced to five years imprisonment.

Mr John Waik, who did not appear below, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Roger Smith, QC for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the complainant's evidence was corroborated. The appellant had not given evidence but a statement made by him to the police was before the court at trial. He denied the complainant's allegations. She was a prostitute with numerous convictions.

The judge had directed the jury that the complainant was a lady of ill repute, of poor character. The jury might wonder how to take her character into account.

He said: "You should not assume just because she engages in that profession and just because she has numerous convictions that she is not telling the truth. Those convictions and that bad character are not relevant to the likelihood of whether or not she has concocted the story, and concocting the story is what is really the issue here. Her convictions are only relevant as to whether or not you can believe her. It is for you to decide the extent to which, if at all, you are helped by that knowledge."

Mr Waik submitted that the judge had begun correctly in the quoted passage but complaint was made of the next sentence. That was simply wrong.

The relevance of the convictions was precisely to the issue in the case, namely, whether or not they helped the jury in deciding if the complainant had, or might have, concocted the story.

The next sentence, Mr Waik submitted, with force, was a complete contradiction of what the judge had just said.

At best that part of the direction

led to confusion. A later statement in the summing up was insufficient to correct what had clearly been put in error.

Their Lordships accepted the suggestion by counsel on both sides that the judge had taken care to adapt to the situation of the complainant, not the defendant, the specimen direction published by the Judicial Studies Board in June 1991. It was headed "Defendant's character, bad," which was appropriate to directing a jury as to a defendant's bad character.

The relevant part of the specimen direction read: "But you must not assume that a defendant is guilty or that he is not telling the truth because he has previous convictions. Those convictions are not relevant at all to the likelihood of his having committed the offence. They are relevant only as to whether you can believe him. It is for you to decide the extent to which, if at all, you are helped by that knowledge."

Their Lordships would wish to say that they emphasised that specimen directions should be used with the greatest care. It might be that, in a straightforward case of a type for which the specimen direction was expressly designed, it could safely be given verbatim.

However, where the circum-

stances or issues in the case required some adaptation of the specimen direction, care should be taken to adapt it appropriately.

Specimen directions drafted for one purpose were not to be used for a different purpose.

The complainant's evidence was uncorroborated and all turned on her credibility. Her evidence was demonstrably incorrect in a number of respects.

Had the appeal rested simply on the discrepancies in her evidence their Lordships would have been reluctant to interfere with the jury's verdict.

However, she had given a checked account of the matters in question and their Lordships felt doubt about the safety and satisfactory nature of the verdict and the right course had to be to allow the appeal.

Solicitors: CPS, West Midlands.

claim of the Botany Triad was agreed at US\$179,129.49.

The conversion of the smaller claim into the currency of the greater as at the date of assessment or agreement was in accordance with the decision of Mr Justice Sheen in *The Transoceanica Franca* (1987) 2 Lloyd's Rep 153.

The court had to decide when interest should be added. There was no case directly on the point.

In *The Despatch* R (1977) 1 Lloyd's Rep 628 Mr Justice Brandon had expressed the view, obiter and without hearing argument, that the balance should be struck at the date of assessment. Mr Justice Sheen had reached the same view after hearing argument in *The Transoceanica Franca*.

His Lordship was confident that he would have reached the same conclusion even without the benefit of those two cases. The extent of each party's claim would only become apparent some time after the collision. Repairs might not be done immediately and it was the cost of repairs which formed the substantial part of the claim and it would be some considerable time before the extent of the claim could be known.

It was unrealistic to strike a balance at the date of collision. Interest should be added to each claim before the balance was struck.

From an early date, the Admiralty Court had taken the view that a plaintiff had to be compensated not only for the loss

caused by the collision but also for the late payment of that loss. Interest was awarded as part of the damages and also to compensate for late payment.

His Lordship had considered a number of decided cases and did not think that there was anything in those cases which led to any other conclusion than that the loss of each party should be assessed at the date the balance was struck.

That date should be taken should be taken for the purpose of converting the smaller claim into the currency of the larger. Interest should be calculated on both claims up to that date and a balance struck between the claims inclusive of interest. That approach would reflect both capital loss caused by the collision and that time had passed between the collision and assessment.

His Lordship would exercise his discretion on the facts of the present case and would direct that the plaintiff's claim be converted from Australian dollars less United States dollars as from the date of his Lordship's judgment and that interest at appropriate rates and from appropriate dates be added to each claim before a balance was struck.

In reaching that conclusion the inherent jurisdiction of the Admiralty Court had been applied and it was not necessary to consider what the position would be under the Supreme Court Act 1981.

Solicitors: Sinclair Roche & Temperley; Clyde & Co.

## Joint occupation for housing benefit

Regina v Chesterfield Borough Council, Ex parte Fullwood

Before Lord Justice Balcombe, Lord Justice Leggatt and Lord Justice Hoffmann

[Judgment June 9]

The words "jointly occupies" in regulation 3(2)(d) of the Housing Benefit (General) Regulations (SI 1987 No 1971) referred to occupation under legal rights enjoyed jointly with one or more persons and did not include persons who merely resided together.

A man whose two adult sons normally resided with him but who were not liable for any payments to the landlord nor paid him any contribution was liable to a non-dependant deduction from his housing benefit.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by Arthur Leslie Fullwood from the dismissal by Mr Justice Henry (The Times October 9, 1992) of his application for judicial review of Chesterfield Borough Council's decision to deduct part of his housing benefit because of his sons' residence with him.

Regulation 3 of the 1987 Regula-

tions provides: "(1) In these regulations, 'non-dependant' means any person, except someone to whom paragraph (2) applies, who normally resides with a claimant.

(2) This paragraph applies to— (a) any member of the claimant's family; ... (d) ... a person who jointly occupies the claimant's dwelling."

LORD CAMPBELL OF ALLOWAY QC and Miss Non Allyn-Lloyd for the appellant; Mr John Howell, QC for Chesterfield Borough Council and the Department of Social Security.

LORD JUSTICE HOFFMANN said the key concept in entitlement to housing benefit was being liable to make payments in respect of a dwelling which the claimant occupied as his home. There had to be occupation of the dwelling as a home and liability to make payments in respect of it.

But most dwellings did not house only the person liable to pay for the rent. There might be wives or partners, children, friends and relations, lodgers or paying guests. The law had to discriminate between those categories of occupants, giving the benefit of the state subsidy to those whom

the claimant ought to accommodate but not allowing it to be exploited by those who could afford to pay for themselves.

The sons, who were over 16, were not members of the claimant's family for the purposes of the regulations. The claimant maintained that they jointly occupied the dwelling.

It was clear to his Lordship that "jointly occupies" had to mean something narrower than "normally residing with", or there would be no non-dependants. The words had a legal flavour. If one said to the ordinary speaker of English: "For the purposes of regulation 3, is this man occupying the house jointly with the claimant," as opposed to residing with the claimant?" he would be unlikely to reply that it depended upon whether he had the run of the house or needed permission to use the kitchen. He would say that one should ask a lawyer.

In his Lordship's judgment the word "jointly" was a technical expression connoting a legal relationship.

The purpose of the distinction between non-dependants and others was to prevent people who

could afford to pay for their accommodation from taking advantage of the claimant's subsidy. But a joint occupier would be liable to the landlord for his share of the payments due in respect of the dwelling.

He might or might not be entitled to housing benefit in respect of those payments, depending on his own financial circumstances. But he would not ordinarily be taking advantage of the other joint occupier's housing benefit, which would be related to his own share of liability.

Since the claim with which the appeal was concerned, the regulations had been amended and made clearer by the Housing Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations (SI 1990 No 546) to add to paragraph (d) the words: "and is either a co-owner of that dwelling with the claimant or his partner (whether or not there are other owners) or is liable with the claimant or his partner to make payments in respect of his occupation of the dwelling."

Solicitors: Elliott Mather Smith, Chesterfield; Sharpe Pritchard; Solicitor, Department of Social Security.

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JOHN MICHAEL BROADBENT  
27 Routhall  
Hyport Road  
London E16 3JF

JOHN MICHAEL BUTLER GOTTCH, MA  
21 Albany Road London SE23 3AB

The election will take place in the Assembly of the City of London on Thursday, 24 June 1993 at 12 noon.

Count will take place on Friday, 25 June 1993 at 10.30 am.

Count will take place on Saturday, 26 June 1993 at 10.30 am.

Count will take place on Sunday, 27 June 1993 at 10.30 am.

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ROCK page 34

The aim is alternative  
but the methods are  
conservative at a  
Finsbury Park festival

BOOKS page 35

Corrected works: will  
there ever be an  
error-free edition of  
James Joyce's *Ulysses*?

# ARTS

## Happiness is . . . a square oyster

Joe Joseph talks  
to the maverick  
French designer  
Philippe Starck,  
subject of a major  
London exhibition

Why, you ask Philippe Starck as he perches, a little podgy, in his swimsuit, on a wharf by his Bordeaux oyster farm, why would anyone want to breed square oysters? "Eet's my hobby," he giggles in his Maurice Chevalier English. "I like very much the idea of changing the shape of prehistoric animals, just to try to be a little like God. *Hah hah hah!* At the moment they are just square. That's the first stage. But it's just done for pleasure, just to play with infinity. It's a private joke. *Hah hah hah!*"

This unconventional sense of humour has made Starck probably the richest, most lionised, most prolific, most versatile, most commissioned and most ridiculed designer alive. There is almost nothing that Starck (even his studio colleagues address him baldly as Starck) has not refashioned.

Lamps, chairs? Of course. Restaurants? Plenty. Pasta? Yup. Offices? Sure. Palaces? Three rooms in President Mitterrand's apartment in the Elysée, actually. A yacht? Naturally. A toothbrush? Cheapish and stylish. A whole street? He's one-third of the way through completing Rue Starck in Paris, for which he is designing everything from the houses to the lamp posts.

Most of his work is gracefully simple yet impish, all done without formal training in design, architecture or engineering: this, Starck reckons, has been his creative salvation. He works compulsively, but never at a drawing board. This week the Design Museum in London is diving head first into the "genius or jerk?" debate, with the sort of huge retrospective entitled "Is Starck a Designer?" usually assembled for artists like Picasso.

So, is Starck taking a break from his diary in Bordeaux? No. "It is easier for me to dream here, and I have a lot to dream this afternoon because we must make the new airport control tower for the airport of Bordeaux. But it's not very important." Maybe not to Starck.

Does Starck know anything about air control towers? "Oh, I



Philippe Starck and his "Babu" table/stool/container: "Before, the job of the designer was to design objects that people can love, just so they would buy it. The job now is to design products which love people"

know nothing about everything. But I have very strong intuition." There is every chance that Starck's control tower for Bordeaux will resemble a bottle of claret, with radar scanners in the shape of square oysters. It may be that Starck has no concept of being scared of flying in a plane that is being lured to the runway by a giant bottle of Château Lafite because his mind would be on other things: he designed his famous Dr Glob chair in the time it took for the seatbelt signs in an aeroplane to go on and off.

It is this speed, perhaps, that makes rivals suspect Starck's skill. "Perhaps I am a charlatan. For me the amount of time spent on something is not a measure of quality. I make one design, that's all, for everything. For a chair I can take two minutes. For a building I

can take 15 minutes, then another three hours to develop it. After three hours I am dead. I cannot continue. I am much too tired. I have a very short battery life. Very strong, it's like a racing car, but not very far."

But don't assume he palms off clients with scribbles. "It's two minutes to draw it, but it's 20 years of magma, of thinking about something. I work 24 hours a day with my magma, and when I need something I just go to fish in it. That's why people say I go very fast."

So Starck is a real designer, right? "That is the question I ask myself every day. And more and more I think 'no'. You have to earn your right to live in your society, and I think being a designer is not enough. After all, there are a lot of very, very good chairs, very com-

fortable. That is why I hope I am not a designer, and I hope that I bring something more through this masochistic vehicle, which might be a chair, lamp, motorcycle, toothbrush, toilet brush, something like that."

Hang on, Philippe. Lamps, brushes, masochistic? "Yes, because it's a very masochistic vehicle to use to speak to people. If you are very logical, and not a masochist, you write, you go into politics, you think, but you do something very direct. But trying to bring your small stone in to the pyramid of society through something which cannot speak, like a chair, that's really masochistic. It's the most difficult way to speak to people. Can you imagine what you can do with a chair? Almost

nothing!" Except sit on it, of course.

So, after designing everything from Manhattan hotels to mail-order house kits, Starck now brims with self-doubt. "I regret all the design I have done," he says sweepingly. "Because it was always not perfect. I regret everything. I regret my life. *Can you imagine?* I have always not understood why I live. That's why I work so much."

What happened to the brash, flash, fun-loving maverick who still paints a boyish grin on his 44-year-old face? "I am Russian in origin. And Russian men do not like happiness because happiness is a little vulgar. I cannot imagine trying to be happy. Melancholy is more elegant. I work a lot against the idea of fun. I want pleasure, I want a smile, but never fun. Fun is for Californian surfers."

Which of his products fills Starck

most with pride? "The next one. *It's not a joke!* It's because I am always dreaming about something better. The next product will be just 'purpose' without the product, that means a friendly product, with less to see, more to feel, with a big soul, with very little design. Design for design's sake is completely dead."

"The priority is how to do less with more soul and more honesty. That means if somebody asks me to design a boat, my work as a designer before was to say, 'Okay, I shall design you a beautiful boat'. But my new job, my real job of designer, is to say, 'Do you want a boat? Do you think you really need it? Do you want to try going for a swim? It's nice to swim.'"

Luckily, Starck has more than enough money if business shrinks. Lucky because he sees the future of design in making people buy fewer

objects, thus sparing the world's resources. He is convinced that we will be living increasingly solitary lives, communicating by computers and satellites, and so we will need to surround ourselves with sympathetic products that will love us. "Before, the job of the designer was to design objects that people can love, just so they would buy it. But that has become obsolete because we want people to buy less. Today we see people with a lot of products around them, but they remain alone. These products are not good friends. That's why the job now is to design products which love people."

Like square oysters. *Hah hah hah!*

● Is Starck a Designer? runs at the Design Museum, Butlers Wharf, London SE1 071-403 6933 from Thursday to October 3, 10.30am-5.30pm Mon-Fri, 10.30am-6.30pm Saturday.

### DANCE: John Percival on a key work in the history of English ballet

## Job well done, two decades on

DEE CONWAY



Birmingham Royal Ballet's *Job*: in 1931 the work was one of the earliest British examples of the new expressive dance

Serge Diaghilev was right to turn down the idea for the ballet *Job* put to him in 1927 by its author, Geoffrey Keynes, although only one of the two reasons he gave was valid. The subject was indeed "too English" to suit his Russian Ballet; the ballet is based on William Blake's vision of the Book of Job.

That Englishness turned into a virtue when Vaughan Williams wrote the ballet's score and Ninette de Valois staged it in 1931. The success of *Job*, its magnitude, grandeur and seriousness, helped get British ballet off to a strong start, and those qualities are seen again in Birmingham Royal Ballet's new production, bringing the work back to the British stage after 21 years.

But Diaghilev was wrong in thinking the concept old-fash-

ioned. What de Valois produced was one of the earliest British examples of the new expressive dance then flourishing in mainland Europe and taking hold in America. There is not a pointe shoe to be seen, hardly a ballet step in it; rather, a sinuous, sensuous style of movement which she devised partly by tracing copies of Blake's drawings.

The style is at its strongest in a vigorous and vicious angularity mixes with insinuating smoothness, and almost as much so in the groups of tormentors he introduces. If Vaughan Williams does not quite give the devil's party all the best tunes, he did let them have the most original and memorable ones, a skilled twisting of jazz idioms.

The goodies (*Job*, his family,

pious Elihu, the angels endlessly circling on a steep flight of steps below God's throne) risk seeming insipid by comparison; their rituals rely more heavily on the strength of the score, especially the rich hymn-like tune asserting the final victory of good. Luckily the Royal Ballet Sinfonia has been in great form all season, and it played *Job* both solemnly and jubilantly under Paul Murphy.

The choice of this work to honour Dame Ninette's 95th birthday is another example of Peter Wright's superior skill in choosing repertoire for BRB (how apt that his knighthood should be announced last weekend). Sadly, a fall a month ago kept the choreographer from rehearsals and from the performance, but her production has been well

staged by Joy Newton and Jean Bedells (successive ballet mistress of Sadler's Wells Ballet in the 1940s) with help from Michael Somes.

BRB cannot field a huge personality for Satan such as earlier productions have sometimes enjoyed: not only Dolin or Helmann of tremendous memory, but David Blair and Stephen Jefferys only a generation ago. However, Michael O'Hare dances the part with force, flair and conviction. Might it have been a good idea to go for new designs closer to Blake (as Gwen Raverat were originally) than John Piper's free adaptation introduced in 1948? Anyway, the ballet looks handsome on the big Birmingham Hippodrome stage, and will again at Covent Garden next month.

The young Mozart, rising into the full energy of adult life, and the aging Richard Strauss, looking ahead to death, dominated London's music-making at the end of last week.

The Philharmonia's Mozart concert was particularly memorable. Claus Peter Flor chose the *Missa Brevis*, written when the composer was 18, and the Concerto in F for three pianos, written two years later.

Distant (just too distant) plainsong, wafting invisibly from the ether regions of the Festival Hall, greeted each section of the Mass, which was sung and played by a section of the Philharmonia Orchestra and Chorus as small as the work itself. Both playing and singing captured the sharp, youthful directness of the music. Lucid, gently inflected phrasing followed the natural weight of vowel and consonant: the overlapping fragments of the word "descendit" fell down with force, the nails of the "Crucifixus" pierced deep, and

### LONDON CONCERTS

## Voices of youth and experience

the Holy Spirit was glimpsed momentarily in the flame of the solo violin.

The Philharmonia Chorus showed, both here and in the *Szymanowski Stabat Mater* which concluded the concert that, with the possible exception of the BBC Symphony Chorus, it can now knock spots off any of its rivals. David Hill's fine work with it as artistic director and chorus master was pitted against the solo singing of Israeli soprano Sylvia Greenberg (a Queen of the Night whose low register is as fragrant and mellow as her top is radiant), Linda Finnie, Thomas Randle (arm in sling, but tenor unscathed) and Anthony Michaels-Moore.

The little concerto which the 20-year-old Mozart wrote for Salzburg's Countess Lodron and her two daughters is often eclipsed by the great E flat two-piano work. Most of this is exquisite froth, and one part is so simple that it can easily be (and sometimes is) telescoped into the other two. Bruno Leonardo Gelber picked the short straw and Katia and Marielle Labèque, frock-coated in coy Amadeus style, gleefully revealed every trick of ornament and *galanterie* in the young Mozart's trade.

Cheryl Stader brought Richard Strauss's Four Last Songs to the Barbican on Thursday. An extraordinary gown had her head efflores-

cing out of a vast magenta and scarlet collar-ruff, for all the world like one of Strauss's own late mallow or asters.

Her performance, though, was sober. Against a London Symphony Orchestra sometimes allowed by André Previn to be over-lush in its responses, Stader gave a bright, unambiguous welcome to Hermann Hesse's "Spring" and swung into the heavier weight of his "September". Her "Beim schlafengehen" followed the soul on its night flight with a broadly sustained crescendo which circled and finally sank in a long, beautifully controlled vocal line.

Previn, who had opened the evening with the UK premiere of Steven Stack's *Son et Lumière*, a glowing and most imaginatively orchestrated quasi-minimalist piece he had premiered in California two years ago, ended the concert with an equally committed performance of Vaughan Williams's Symphony No 5.

HILARY FINCH

### OPERA

## Smart informality

The Marriage  
of Figaro  
Hackney Empire

battle by Figaro, it is made frighteningly clear that it is the trenches of the first world war for which he is heading.

Heather Shipp's Cherubino is another alert portrayal, making great capital out of the double-take of a girl playing a boy looking awkward in girl's clothes — especially high-heeled shoes. With a high standard of acting overall, the star of the evening was Michael John Pearson, whose winning Figaro was a constant delight to ear and eye. Whether countering the Count or suffering the agonies of jealousy during Susanna's "Deh

vien", this Figaro was an outstanding portrayal.

Jenny Saunders's Susanna was too lightweight to command the stage convincingly, but "Deh vien" was affecting and sung. Tracey Chadwell's Countess also lacked something of the gravity demanded by the character, though this did lend her "Dove sono" a touching vulnerability. Don Basilio's bluster was effectively depicted by Philip Slane,

and Gerard Delrez and Heather Fryer were a fine Bartolo and Marcellina. The roles of Antonio, Barbarina and Don Curzio were well taken by Dominic Burns, Anne Cambier and Stephen Mullan.

The standard of orchestral playing was well above average for this kind of venture. David Jones's conducting was alert and vigorously paced, though not always as eloquently shaped as in "Dove sono". There are six more performances, in tandem with *The Magic Flute*, at various venues in the southeast.

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# I'm sorry, I'll publish that again

The original text of Joyce's *Ulysses*, which is reprinted tomorrow, on 'Bloomsday', will rekindle a fierce literary debate, says Nicolette Jones

In *Finnegans Wake*, James Joyce referred to Ireland as "Errorland". This would, as it turns out, have made an appropriate title for *Ulysses*; no one has yet managed to print the book without a plethora of mistakes. Successive attempts to "correct" the text in line with Joyce's intentions have given rise to new errors and triggered an academic debate of ballistic ferocity.

The latest development in the on- and off of new editions and accusations of incompetence, opportunism and even deceit, is the return to the original 1922 edition. It is re-published tomorrow, on Bloomsday itself, by Oxford University Press. This time it is not re-set, but photographed, to avoid further flaws.

Ironically, the 1922 edition was long perceived as a notably inaccurate text. (Joyce himself was anxious that a second edition should put things right.) The first edition was published in Paris by Sylvia Beach of Shakespeare & Co. after both British and American publication had been thwarted by the censors, though expurgated episodes had been printed in the *Little Review* in America and in *The Egoist* in England. In 1920, copies of the *Little Review* were confiscated and burnt; in 1921, the American publisher was found guilty of obscenity and publication stopped.

Joyce was grateful that *Ulysses* was published at all, and the 1922 edition was better than nothing — but not much. It is a signal of how absurdly problematic subsequent revisions have become that the 1922 edition is now hailed as a necessary opportunity to get back to base.

An inevitable difficulty has always been the unprecedented complexity of the text itself: dense with wordplay, puns disguised as misspellings, and neologisms. But that was not the only hurdle. The book was printed in Dijon, and as Jeri Johnson (the Joyce scholar who has written the introduction to OUP's republished edition) points out, the "French typesetters were having to

set by hand what was perhaps the most linguistically complex work of literature yet written in a language they did not know, from handwriting which is, at the best of times, difficult to decipher, on proofs which were often dense with additions." Joyce didn't make it any easier by making alterations every time he got his hands on a proof, sometimes even changing the text to embrace typesetting errors.

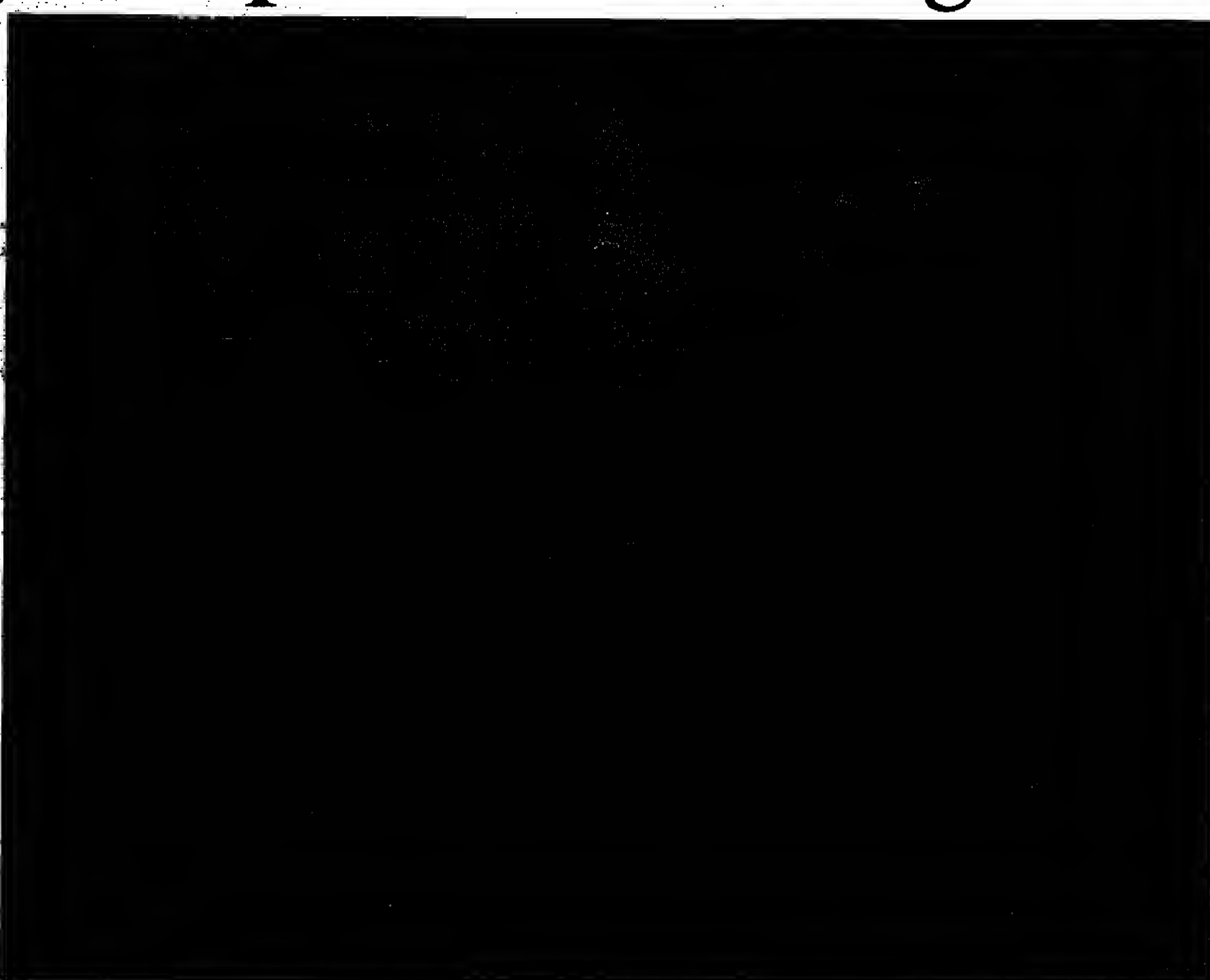
After the first edition came out, Joyce compiled a list of errata, which was published with the first English edition and incorporated into its next printing. But there were still errors, some of them new. So it went on: every new edition added some mistakes, as it removed others.

Further complications included a pirate edition that became the basis of subsequent versions (after the book was cleared of obscenity in 1934); an edition printed in Hamburg, revised by Joyce's friend, Stuart Gilbert, on his instructions; a limited edition illustrated by Matisse that Joyce had a hand in revising; and an edition in 1961, claimed as "scrupulously corrected". The Joyce critic Jack Dalton responded to this claim by asserting that he found 4,000 corruptions in it. Dalton was contracted to produce his own critical edition, but never did.

The man who took on this task in the late 1970s was the German professor, Hans Walter Gabler, authorised by the Joyce Estate, and it was his boldly titled *Ulysses: The Corrected Text*, published, to acclaim at first, in 1984, that ignited the biggest critical explosion so far. His principal adversary was a young American research fellow, John Kidd. The rumpus began with a lecture in 1985, followed by a conference in Monaco to discuss the controversy, and in 1988 an article in the *New York Review of Books*, entitled "The Scandal of *Ulysses*". Argument raged on the letters page of *The Times Literary Supplement*; Joyce's grandson, Stephen Joyce, waded in; and the American publishers Random

House set up a committee to examine Kidd's assertions. The committee was inconclusively dissolved, but the 1961 edition was quietly republished to offer an alternative to Gabler's version.

At issue was Gabler's unorthodox technique. Textual corrections usually depend on one "copy text", revised in relation to all other documentary evidence. Gabler argued that there was no one copy text in the case of *Ulysses*. The 1922 edition was too riddled with error.



In the capital of what Joyce referred to as "Errorland": *The Four Courts*, Dublin, 1901, by Walter Osborne. Pictures by courtesy of the National Gallery of Ireland

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Instead, he collated Joyce's drafts, documents, notes and letters, producing a "synoptic" text with diacritical marks that showed the chronological layers of revision.

Kidd accused Gabler of misunderstanding Joyce's methods of composition; of breaking text-editing rules; of using facsimiles (on which marks or smudges could be mistaken for corrections) instead of originals; of collating the evidence of all the editions in Joyce's lifetime; and of incomplete

research. The most outrageous accusation was that the estate was eager that the new edition should introduce "a significant element of fresh creativity" in order to justify a new copyright on *Ulysses* — and that, despite reservations about the scholarship, Gabler's edition was rushed out to secure the copyright.

Books have been written about this debate, including Bruce Arnold's recent *The Scandal of Ulysses*. Gabler still has his advocates; not all Kidd's mud stuck.

After all, there is generally conceded to be no such thing as a "perfect text" of *Ulysses*. And if there were, everyone agrees it would certainly not be the 1922 edition.

So why should the 1922 edition be republished at this point in the debate, apart from the fact that, at £6.99 in paperback, it seems a gift to readers (Happy Bloomsday)? Jeri Johnson argues that it is important as an historical document, that it can be used as the "copy text" for further "corrected"

editions — indeed, John Kidd has already been commissioned to produce one — and that even if there are 2,000 errors in it, at least it is Joyce's own version.

And she quotes Philip Gaskell, an adviser on the Gabler edition who believed that "no later edition improved on or even matched the first for accuracy". Later editions, he says, are illustrations of "a classic case of textual deterioration". Come back, French typesetters, *tout est pardonné*.

## THEATRE

### Set in their ways

Lipstick Dreams Shaw

JO, JENNY and Jess are hairdressers stagnating in a backwater of New South Wales, giving old ladies blue rinses and getting set in their ways. The Blue Heaven salon is on the verge of bankruptcy and their last hope of attracting custom is — if one believes the plot — winning the karaoke competition at the local Chinese restaurant. The three Js already have some stiff competition: the ultra-camp blond boys from the barbershop opposite whose names all begin with B will be lip-synching to the Beach Boys wearing Speedo swimwear. Worse, the women discover their lead singer has done a runner with Jess's boyfriend. In spite of all this, they keep their hair on — with the last-minute addition of Jan, a housewife who has had enough — they win the competition.



Heavenly hairdressers: from left, Emily Symons, Jane Anthony Grant and Fiona Spence

*Lipstick Dreams* is the Australian equivalent of a genre familiar from the Theatre Royal, Stratford East: a sitcom of ordinary working lives depicting characters somewhere between stereotypes and real people, plus a socio-political element that gives it an edge. This female four-hander is about women facing the music, standing up to their men, allowing themselves some sexuality, and bonding on a girl's night out.

Jenny the drip decides her boyfriend Jeff when he tells her if she goes out she will be gone for good. The tart Jess, already a dab hand at giving

men lip, also manages to break free of her demanding father. With this feisty feminist angle, the play has some punch. Fundamentally, however, it is featherweight and a bit dull-witted, with a predictable plot and visibly structured speeches.

The first half is entertaining enough. Jane Anthony Grant (Jenny) is slightly too much of a caricature in thick specs and phillips, with permanently clenched fists and a covey chest. Still, Emily Symons (Jess) is dynamically comic doing "rude" dancing, chewing gum with a vengeance and

shouting at old dears. The second half plummets theatrically. Set backstage in the Chinese restaurant, it is mostly protracted monologues interspersed with great slabs of script that consist of other teams' acts coming over the tannoy. The supposedly climactic finale of the gang of four doing their winning karaoke routine is an embarrassment: out of time and physically unco-ordinated. Anyway, what kind of a feminist victory is it to get dolled up in makeup and high heels and move your body for the boys?

KATE BASSETT

## TELEVISION REVIEW: Tony Patrick on a new Channel 4 drama series

### America caught at the turn of a tide

THE creators of *I'll Fly Away*, a 22-part series which began with a feature-length episode last night, also brought us *St Elsewhere* and *Northern Exposure*. Their impressively well acted, new (made in 1991) tale is of smalltown life in the Deep South, circa 1958.

The black population is still firmly kept in its place, providing domestic servants and unskilled labour, but not permitted, for example, to drive public service vehicles, as in neighbouring states. In the fictional Bryland, possibly in Georgia, District attorney Forrest Bedford (Sam Waterston) is prosecuting the young, white driver of a bus carrying local blacks when it skidded into a river, drowning three passengers.

Bedford's wife Gwen (Deborah Hedwall) is hospitalised following a breakdown, and Opal, their long-serving black maid, gone to retirement in Chicago. With one child aged seven and two teenagers, Bedford is glad when a young woman recommended by Opal arrives to replace her.

The rich fabric of family life, the affectionate squabbling between siblings, and the fear that the "damaged" mother may not be coming back are beautifully caught by Water-

ston, Hedwall and the three young actors who play little John Morgan (John Aaron Bennett), precocious Frankie (Ashlee Levitch) and the sullen Nathaniel (Jeremy London).

Regina Taylor is equally impressive as Lilly, whose voice provides a narration of sorts. Her initial air of being on the brink of womanhood, self-discovery and liberation, is only slightly altered by the revelation that she is a deserted wife who has a six-year-old daughter of her own.

Some details look anachronistic and opportunistic. How likely is it that the bus driver's defence attorney, in the male supremacist society of the time, would be the glamorous Kristina (Kathryn Harrold)? The early emphasis is on the family group, with brief cutaways to the doomed bus, the courtroom, church and the school gym, where Nathaniel is on the wrestling squad, coached by a creepy martinet. When the bus driver is acquitted and the local blacks hold a silent protest vigil, in which Lilly takes part, neither the family nor the town can hope to go back to the way things were.

Strongly written, by Joshua Brand and William Falsey, who are not afraid to push all

the emotional buttons, *I'll Fly Away* looks like a superior prospect: recent history is brought affectingly to life, and peopled with characters whose lives look full of potential for drama. Brand, who

directs, will have upped the stately tempo a little in subsequent episodes. Special mention to W.G. Snuffy Walden for the atmospheric music, and to R. Sammy Favers for his guitar playing.

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The LGRF is sponsored by The Times and The Sunday Times. The Graduate Fair is preceded by the Schools' Fair on 30 June - 1/2 July. Together, the two events form - New Directions Week '93.

For further information on the LGRF contact Fiona Maguire at ULCS, 50 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PG. Telephone: 071 363 2806. Graduates' phone 0800 252183 for further details.

Composer anniversaries, like competitions, are a necessary evil. Even if the interests of the artists or composers are rarely paramount, some can do well out of them, and they are good for the music industry generally. The 150th anniversary of Grieg's birth (which falls today) has prompted the unearthing of a lot of rarely-heard music, and nowhere has the trumpet been blown louder than in the composer's home town of Bergen. This year was also the 40th anniversary of the Bergen Festival.

## Too good to be suppressed

Barry Millington, in Grieg's home town, on works rediscovered during the 150th anniversary of the composer's birth

Grieg is. There is considerable irony in the fact that his most enduringly popular work, the Piano Concerto, is an example of the large-scale forms in which he was weakest. Grieg's strength is as a miniaturist: his songs unerringly encapsulate the emotion or scene delineated by the poet, while his piano compositions — not least the various sets of *Lyric Pieces* — similarly hit the mark with masterly economy.

A leading Norwegian soprano, Marianne Hirst, gave exquisite accounts of "Margrethe's Lullaby", "Farewell" and other songs, as well as a sympathetic, warm-hearted performance of *Seven Songs* by a successor of Grieg's, David Monrad Johansen. What brought the television cameras to this event, how-

ever, was the world premiere of Grieg's 23 Short Pieces for piano. These pieces, dating from Grieg's 15th year, have been sitting in the Bergen Public Library under the composer's stern embargo — "To be destroyed after my death. Must never be printed."

But this year sees their first publication (in the scholarly Grieg Edition from Peters), first performances and recordings. To breach the composer's wishes seems justified in view of the interest of the works, which show where he came from and where he was going.

A series of characteristic mood pieces, they include a Chopinesque dance movement, several with naive, folk-like elements à la Schumann, and a neo-Bachian two-part invention complete with cadential trills. In spite of these influences (unsurprising in a student), the 23 Pieces already evince Grieg's genius for sharply etched cameos. Geir Hemming Braaten, whose recording is now available on the Victoria label as part of its own excellent Grieg Edition (a 24-CD set of all the piano works, songs and chamber

music), did full justice to the abundant variety of moods and textures.

Far and away Grieg's best song cycle is *Haugtussa*, the story of the mountain girl whose sexuality is awakened by a tall, handsome lad who quickly tires of her, leaving her to find solace in the babbling brook (the poet leaves open the question of her fate). Inexplicably neglected, *Haugtussa* has recently been authoritatively recorded by Anne Sofie von Otter. At the festival it drew from the Norwegian soprano Anne Mari Hemdal her most ardent, engaging singing.

In the slightly earlier group of Op 60 songs on poems by Vilhelm Krag, the almost painfully concentrated feeling of "A bird cried", with its







# Stonehatch to head first-day double for Chapple-Hyam

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

DESPITE holding a trainer's licence for less than 30 months, Peter Chapple-Hyam has enjoyed more big-race success than most of his contemporaries can dream of achieving in a lifetime.

The Epsom Derby, the English and Irish 2,000 Guineas, plus victories in the International Stakes, Champion Stakes and Dewhurst Stakes, have elevated the Manton handler to the top rank of his profession at the age of 30.

His meteoric career can take a further step forward today by saddling his first Royal Ascot winner—and so ending the 21-year hoodoo on Manton runners at the royal meeting.

With the pick of Robert Sangster's two-year-olds in his care, Chapple-Hyam was making confident noises about the new intake early in the season, and his confidence has been more than justified by the successes of Stonehatch, State Performer and Turtle Island.

Stonehatch, napped to win the Coventry Stakes, was arguably the most impressive of the trio when winning at York on his debut a month ago.

The son of Storm Bird recorded an excellent time when accounting for three previous winners and his breeding suggests he will appreciate this afternoon's rain-softened ground.

"I am really confident. Stonehatch has been working very well," Chapple-Hyam said yesterday. "I read in the papers that Wajiba Riva is

Richard Hannon's banker of the meeting. Well, I think my fellow is my nap."

Wajiba Riva certainly appears to be the main threat, having twice shown good speed to win convincingly over five furlongs. On an admittedly dubious line of form involving Ocho's Rios and Brocton Gold, the Hannon runner has an excellent chance but Stonehatch, trimmed to 14-1 by William Hill for next season's 2,000 Guineas following a bet yesterday of £50,000-£3,000, is taken to triumph.

Whatever the outcome, Chapple-Hyam has first-rate prospects of taking the following race, the King Edward VII Stakes, with Cairo Prince. In the Derby, Cairo Prince ran a remarkable race, ending up a fast-finishing fourth, having been last of the 16 runners less



Cumani: early opportunity

than half a mile from home. He ran a similar kind of race in the Chester Vase and I believe that on both occasions he was inconvenienced by the track.

The galloping nature of Ascot should be much more in his favour and every drop of rain will boost his chances. The likely strong pace will suit Beneficial, who is the main danger.

The absence of Zafonic ends the prospect of a fascinating rematch against Kingmambo, his conqueror on soft ground in the Prix d'Jebel, but his withdrawal should enable Francois Boutin's colt to continue his marvellous run in the St James's Palace Stakes.

Another French rider, Urban Sea, ran extremely well behind Jolypha and Hiafof last autumn, and is a sporting selection to win the Prince of Wales's Stakes now that she returns to her favoured trip on ideal ground.

Inner City is seeking his sixth consecutive victory in the opening Queen Anne Stakes and, although this represents a step up in class from listed company, Luca Cumani's mid-leveling Alhija, provided heavy rain stays away.

Balassani won with far more in hand than his two-length winning margin at Warwick last month suggests and Martin Pipe's dual purpose seven-year-old should be concerned in the finish for the marathon Ascot Stakes.



Missing attraction: Zafonic, nearside, pipped by Kingmambo on soft ground at Maisons-Laffite in April

## Rain frustrates Zafonic's reappearance

By RICHARD EVANS

AFTER scoring away most of the potential opposition, the last-minute withdrawal of Zafonic from the St James's Palace Stakes takes the edge off the opening day of Royal Ascot.

The reappearance of the highly impressive 2,000 Guineas winner promised to be one of the highlights of the meeting and his absence may have deprived British racing crowds of their last opportunity to see Khaled Abdullah's colt as he prepares for a tilt at the Breeders' Cup Mile in California.

The going at Ascot is now officially good to soft. An inch of rain fell on the Berkshire course between Thursday and yesterday morning and more showers arrived during the day.

Captain Nicky Beaumont, the clerk of the course, reported yesterday: "We haven't had a lot of rain. But there was a

hit this morning and a heavy shower this afternoon. To be right, it is just good to soft. As for the rest of the week, your guess is as good as mine. Everybody will be disappointed that Zafonic is not running."

Grant Pritchard-Gordon, racing manager at Abdulla, said: "Zafonic has told us on three occasions he does not like soft ground—twice at Deauville last year, when he was below his subsequent form, and then in the Prix d'Jebel at Maisons-Laffite this season he showed it again." He added: "Obviously, I'm very upset for the horse, for Prince Khaled, for Ascot and everyone who wanted to see him run, but I think we have done the right thing by the horse."

Pritchard-Gordon walked Ascot at Abdulla's request, on Sunday night and, despite several hours of sunshine, found the ground to be slightly on the dead side. He said: "I

hoped the bad weather would keep away and, given another dry day, we would have had perfect ground, but I confirmed with Nicky Beaumont that there had been rain and with an unsettled weather forecast, we took the inevitable decision."

The defection means a maximum of four horses will go to post for the day's £145,000-added feature race.

The John Dunlop-trained Ventiquattrogi will not run if there is significant overnight rain, which would re-

duce the field to the smallest since 1973 when Thatch faced only one opponent.

Further rain will seriously jeopardise the chances of three other Abdulla-owned runners: Factuel (Queen Anne Stakes), So Factuel (Jersey Stakes) and Specified (Cork And Orrery Stakes) are all by Known Fact, who is closely related to Gone West, sire of Zafonic, and must have fast ground.

"If the rain continues, it could be a disastrous week," Pritchard-Gordon lamented.

## No action taken on National officials

CAPTAIN Keith Brown and Ken Evans, the two racing officials at the centre of the Grand National fiasco, will not face disciplinary action, the Jockey Club confirmed yesterday (Richard Evans writes).

The club's stewards, led by Lord Harrington, yesterday considered the report into the void Aintree race produced by Sir Michael Connell, Len Cowburn and Stan Mellor. The report criticised Brown, the Jockey Club starter, for allowing horses to get too near to the starting tape and decided that Evans, the advance flagman, did not raise his red flag after the two false starts.

"The [Connell] committee's report makes it clear that a number of circumstances combined to bring about the false starts, while the confusion which led to the race being declared void resulted from the failure of the recall system," the Jockey Club said in a statement.

"In the view of the stewards, no error of judgment highlighted by the committee arises from us or is attributable to any breach of the Rules of Racing, nor does any such error of itself amount to such a breach. Accordingly, there will be no disciplinary enquiry."

A racing working party, chaired by Brigadier Andrew Parker Bowles, is at present considering how starting procedures can be changed to avoid a repeat of the National debacle.

## Tenby dope test proves negative

THE Derby favourite, Tenby, was not doped when he disappointed in the Epsom classic, the Jockey Club announced yesterday.

The urine sample taken from the colt after he had trailed in tenth, 23 lengths behind his winning stable companion, Commander In Chief, proved negative when

analysed by the Horseracing Forensic Laboratory at Newmarket.

The result effectively ends speculation that the Henry Cecil runner, 5-4 on favourite for the big race, had been "got at".

Connections had postponed running plans for the previously unbeaten Tenby until

they had established the cause of his failure.

Grant Pritchard-Gordon, racing manager to the colt's owner, Khaled Abdullah, said: "I was not aware of the test result, but we are keeping an open mind as to what went wrong. Plans for Tenby are still open. We are looking at every option."

THUNDERER	RICHARD EVANS
2.30 Inner City	2.50 Inner City
3.05 YOUNG SENIOR (nap)	3.05 Urban Sea
4.20 Stonehatch	3.45 Kingmambo
4.55 Cairo Prince	4.55 CAIRO PRINCE (nap)
5.30 Rosina Mae	5.30 Balassani

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 Inner City, 3.05 Ezzoud, 4.55 Beneficial (nap).

The Times Private Handicapper's top ratings: 4.20 STONEHATCH.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

2.30 QUEEN ANNE STAKES (Group II: £53,194: 1m st) (10 runners) BBC1

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102 (6) 31-0118 SWING LOW 13 (D.F.S.) (P) A A Pajet J Dapin 4-9-9	W Carson 95
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# Flowers displays first-rate attitude



Flowers: splendid saves

FROM ROB HUGHES  
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT  
IN WASHINGTON

IN THESE days of prima donna footballers, who earn more than heads of state and constantly remind us of the burdens of playing for their country, Tim Flowers emerged on Sunday as refreshing as a cold shower in the sauna heat of the RFK Stadium here.

At the age of 26 and possibly England's fifth-choice goalkeeper, he made his debut against Brazil and commanded his area. He then showed genuine humility and gratitude for having experienced such a day. "If I never play again, they can't take that away from me," he said an hour after the 1-1 draw.

For Flowers to communicate his joy

at representing England and his sense of awe at holding his own against Brazilians was without question the most rewarding personal experience one has had in this depressing English summer.

"I was an England fan before I got into this squad, and it disappoints me the way Jimmy Hill, Jim Rosenthal and the other critics fail to realise how hard it is," Flowers said.

For his own initiation he watched videos of the Brazilians. Graham Taylor, the England manager, advised him to beware of Branco, the left back who can shoot from goal from a corner. "I was thinking you don't get that in the ZDS Cup," Flowers said. "But in the build-up I was aware I was surrounded by the cream of English football. I didn't want to let anyone down."

He has a better perspective on the sport than most of the English party combined and does not see the loss of a football game as a tragedy; tragedy is what happened in downtown Washington the day before the match when a 72-year-old English tourist was shot

dead in the street for no other reason than he was there.

Flowers had not touched the ball when Rai ought to have scored against him in the seventh minute, but snuffed his shot. But after that, he made two memorable saves, once turning in mid-air to paw away a shot from Cafu which dipped in flight, and at the end of the match, getting the vital touch when the substitute, Amir, should have beaten him from ten yards.

"The one Brazilian I knew something about was their goalkeeper, Claudio Taffarel," Flowers said. "I had watched him play for Parma on television and when I went to swap shirts with this fellow, I was hoping he'd want mine. I doubt he'd ever heard of me."

Maybe not. There was no profile of the goalkeeper in the match programme, and he was not in the squad photograph which adorns the glossy FA brochure. So the Brazilians would hardly know that he was born in Leamington, that at 17 he played in a Wolverhampton side that immediately began sliding down the divisions, and

that after Southampton signed him he suffered a broken cheekbone in his first game.

Perhaps it is battling this kind of adversity or perhaps it is his upbringing that makes Flowers so level-headed. "I phoned home immediately after the game, and my dad slaughtered me," Flowers laughed. "He said, 'What on earth do you look like?' The goalkeeper tried to explain away the severity of his US Marine haircut by saying his family could not imagine how hot it is out here."

But having helped England to restore a vestige of pride in themselves, having been praised by his manager for the saves that he made, his coolness and the assertive way he talked the defenders through the game, Flowers learnt that his appearance was, at least for the immediate future, a one-off. Consistent with the philosophy of giving each of the fringe players experience in these conditions, Taylor intends to start Saturday's match in Detroit, against Germany, with Nigel Martyn, of Crystal Palace.

## Forest put Keane's £5m move on hold

ROY Keane's hopes of securing his footballing future before leaving with the Ireland squad for their World Cup match in Lithuania tomorrow have not been fulfilled. Nottingham Forest dashed any hope of that yesterday by insisting that Keane cannot move until they have reached agreement with one of the prospective bidders.

Arsenal, Aston Villa and Manchester United have all expressed interest, but there seems little doubt that Blackburn remain Keane's choice. The player has agreed personal terms with the Lancashire club, which is believed to have offered him nearly £10,000 a week over a four-year contract. Blackburn, however, have not yet agreed terms with Forest, who are expecting a new British transfer record fee of around £5 million for their midfield player. Keane is under contract until October 31.

England's under-21 side will attempt to win the Toulon tournament for the third time in four years when they meet France in the final this evening. England are unbeaten in nine matches.

## Dry view of washout

TENNIS: With more than half a century of Wimbledon experience between them, the Amritraj brothers, of India, were among the few players who remained unaffected by the torrential rain which put paid to the first day of Wimbledon qualifying at Roehampton yesterday. "The weather has only surprised me once," Anand said. "In 1976, it failed to rain at all." As the covers submerged under one large puddle, young hopefuls sat in the pavilion kicking their heels in frustration. The brothers are looking to collect the over-35 title that has so far eluded them. "I may have a crack at the main doubles with Vasudevan just for a bit of fun, though," he said, with a refreshingly *laissez-faire* attitude.

## O'Bree to chase record

CYCLING: Graeme O'Bree, the Scot who designs and builds his own bikes, could upstage Chris Boardman, the Olympic champion, in his attempt to break the world one-hour record of 31.96 miles set by Francesco Moser, of Italy, in Mexico City nine years ago. The one-hour race is regarded as the blue ribbon in cycling. Boardman is scheduled to race on July 23. O'Bree is planning an attempt a week earlier. Moser's record was set at altitude but, like Boardman, O'Bree plans a sea level attempt, either in Athens, or Bordeaux. In May, O'Bree improved his national one hour figures to 49.383km (30.66 miles) at Herne Hill, London.

## Rider's breakthrough

EQUESTRIANISM: Ferdi Eilberg, from Warwickshire, became the first British dressage rider for five years to win a Grand Prix Special when he and Arun Tor, owned by Vivien Sturt, won in Rennes on Sunday. Eilberg, born in Germany, acquired British nationality four years ago. He overcame rain-soaked conditions to finish two marks ahead of Susanne Lebek, of Germany, on Fashion. The last Briton to win a Special was David Hunt at Rotterdam in 1988. Lord King has been elected president of the British Showjumping Association in succession to Lt-Col Sir John Miller, who has completed a four-year term of office.

## Blow for Ballesteros

GOLF: Seve Ballesteros has slipped out of the top 20 in the Sony World rankings for the first time since 1986. Ballesteros's poor run of form has pushed him down to 21st place, with a points average of 7.30. He is nearly 15 behind Nick Faldo, the Open champion, who leads the rankings. Bernhard Langer, of Germany, lies second with 16.83 and Greg Norman, of Australia, third with 14.65. Sam Torrance, the leader in the Volvo European Order of Merit after his victory in the Honda Open in Hamburg — his third title of the European Tour season — has leapt from 108th to 54th place.

## Willing and ancient

GOLF: Royal Blackheath, the oldest golf club in England, played host yesterday to some of the oldest golfers in Britain. The second Lawrence Batley over-80s championship attracted 74 players — and this time they all lived to tell the tale. The inaugural event at Moorfoot, Leeds, last year was marred by the death of an 81-year-old. One player did need the attention of a nurse after "toppling over" but continued his round and a caddy was hit in the face by a ball and went to hospital. The oldest competitor was Gerald Pitchforth, an astrologer, who at 91 manages nine holes twice a week at Ferndown. Bob Church, 82, of Little Aston, was the winner.

Simon Barnes watches the mean machine of basketball stand firm against a charge by the mighty Chicago Bulls

The Dream Team at the Olympic Games was ultimately a bit of a bore: a tautological statement of American world dominance and a brilliant new method of selling pilsnols. But this was the real thing.

Already, people are calling it the greatest game of basketball in history — at least, they are if they were on the winning side. "I didn't care who won or lost," said "Sir" Charles Barkley, momentarily stepping out of his ghetto warrior persona.

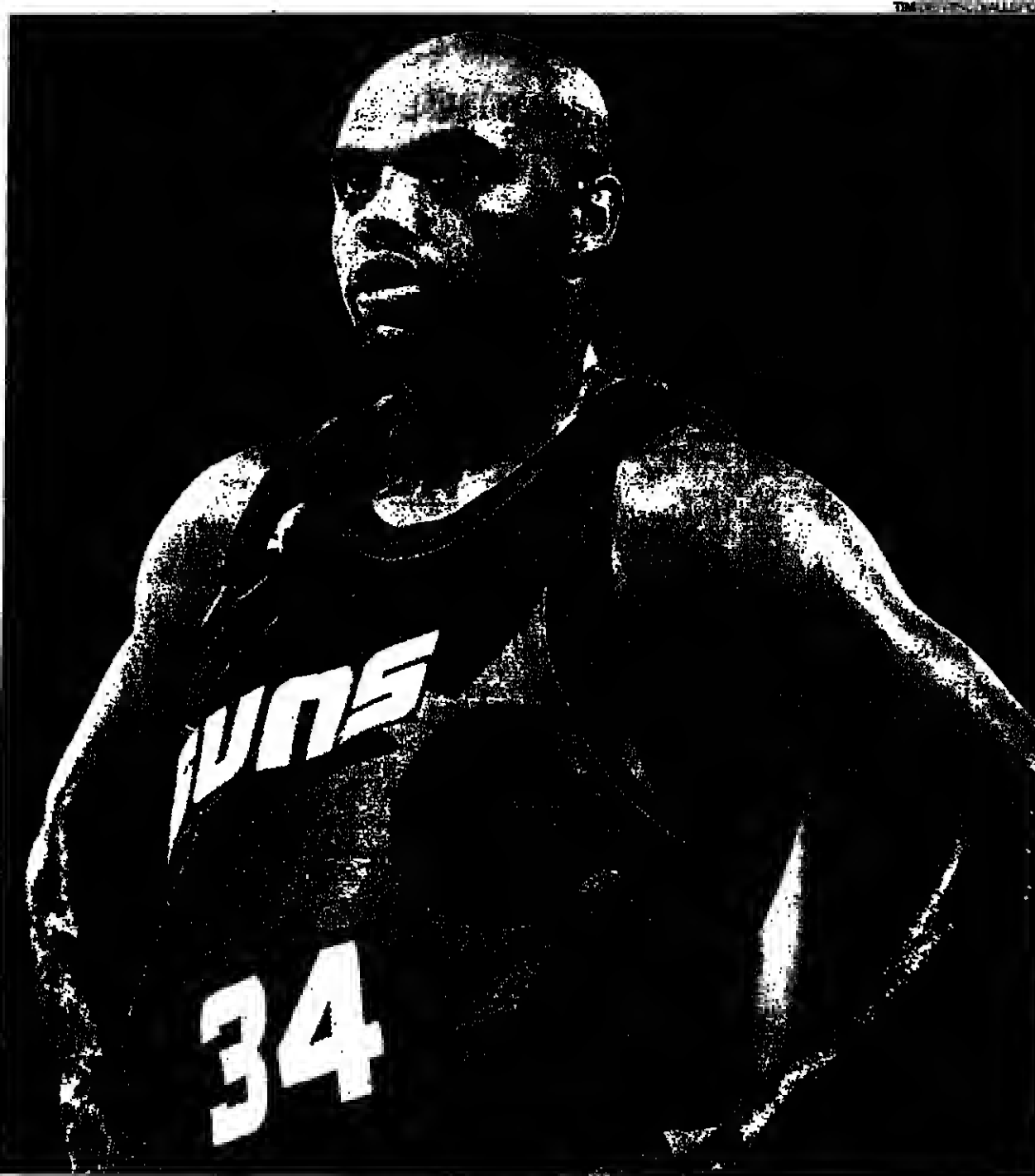
Though he did, in fact, win. This was the third game of the National Basketball Association finals, between the overwhelmingly-favoured Chicago Bulls and the Phoenix Suns. The Bulls — Michael Jordan's lot — won the first two games of the best-of-seven series away in Phoenix. Now back in Chicago, they were expected to take the championship for the third successive time in four successive games: a sweep and a three-peat, in the vernacular.

But in an extraordinary game of blaring tensions, bulldozing aggression and the very prettiest of skills, the Phoenix Suns won in the third period of extra time to make the final score 129-121. This is only the second triple-over-time win in the history of the finals.

It was well worth watching. In Barcelona, we had the dismal spectacle of Jordan and Barkley ganging up to wallop Angola and Lithuania. But here in Chicago, they were on opposite sides: two huge men, made still more colossal by their utter self-confidence, a pair of shaven-pated, muscular, long-limbed billionaires.

In basketball, as in any team game, all players are equal and some are more equal than others. Each of these two smooth-skulled stars played his rivetingly watchable part in this cacophonous occasion, but it was Barkley's night. "I haven't played a game this long since I was back in the hood hooping with the brothers," he said.

Each man is one half of T.S. Eliot's Macavity the Mystery Cat. "He's broken every human law, he breaks the law of gravity," Barkley



Steely glare: Barkley displays the aggressive stance that has taken the Phoenix Suns to the championship finals

specialises in breaking human laws. He is prone to outrageous statements and public argument. At his best, he plays in a mood of half-controlled fury. Jordan mostly confines himself to his single-handed campaign to discredit the law of gravity: more

Gleam Huddle than Vince Jones, he plays with pure joy in his perfectly extraordinary skills. On Sunday night, Jordan scored 44 points. Barkley, however, won.

He did so with his right elbow hidden under a huge bandage. After a bad fall in the second game of the series, he had fluid drained from the joint half an hour before the start on Sunday, and took the

floor rattling with anti-inflammatory pills. "I'm the best one-armed basketball player in the world," he said.

Before the mighty third game began, it seemed that the Bulls had already faced the best of Barkley and withstood. But this time, Barkley, in pain and palpably a fraction off his game — a fraction is an awful lot at this level — drove and lifted his team with the sort of hunger and aggression that can occasionally light up every sport ever played.

Indeed, I was reminded for a crazy moment of England on the last day of the first Test match. Underdogs either accept their role as second best,

or they come out to defy it. England, Gooch apart, accepted it. The Phoenix Suns and Sir Charles did not.

Barkley has been given the Rumourous title of The Round Mound of Rebound, for his no-hair haircut and for his voracious hunger for the loose ball. Possession is obviously the key part of basketball, and on Sunday night in Chicago, Barkley, striking like a pike, grabbed 19 rebounds. That was the game's killer-stat.

And it was Barkley who finally took the stuffing out of the Bulls in that endless third period of overtime. The play looked simplicity itself: he stole a pass intended for

Jordan — "I knew it was coming" — and dropped the ball home with the nonchalance of a man putting a penny on the collection plate. That gave the Suns a five-point lead, and it finished the Bulls.

When at last it was over, his arm was packed with ice, and the elbow will be drained every day. The next game in the series is here in Chicago tomorrow. Despite Sunday's banquet of a game, Sir Charles remains hungry. The Bulls' head coach, Phil Westphal, was asked for his opinion of Barkley's match-winning performance. "I'm amazed," he said. "But I'm not surprised."

## Formula One has bad sense of timing

FROM OLIVER HOIT  
IN MONTREAL

AS THE squabbling Formula One factions returned to Europe yesterday to pursue their arguments over the legality of advanced technical aspects of their cars, drivers and team members alike reflected on the perverse sense of bad timing afflicting F1, the sport's governing body.

Not only did officials choose the only grand prix now run in North America, a market they are desperate to break into, as a forum to air their dirty washing in public, they did it on the first weekend of the year when Formula One was in direct competition with the rival IndyCar series and the looming presence of Nigel Mansell.

The furore of F1's peremptory declaration that active suspension and traction control may be illegal persuaded at least one potential big sponsor to abandon plans to attend the Canadian grand prix and overshadowed the race itself.

"I just do not understand what they are trying to achieve. It is very bad for the image of the sport," the race winner, Alain Prost, said afterwards. "We all want 26 cars driving close together but what we are showing to the people outside with this arguing is not very good. We need a better show."

There is widespread agreement, Frank Williams and McLaren's Ron Dennis excepted, that something needs to be done to revive Formula One. "We have got to get all this technical stuff out," Niki Lauda, of Ferrari, said yesterday. "We've got to get the drivers back in control of the driving."

Danny Sullivan's IndyCar triumph in Detroit made him the fifth driver to win one of the six races run this season. Only Prost and Ayrton Senna have won in seven Formula One races.

FORMULA ONE STANDINGS: Drivers: 1. A. Prost (Fr), 2. A. Senna (Br), 3. N. Mansell (UK), 4. M. Satorra (Ger), 5. M. Brundle (UK), 6. R. Barrichello (Br), 7. A. F. Prost (Fr), 8. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 9. P. Barrichello (Br), 10. C. Agnew (UK), 11. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 12. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 13. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 14. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 15. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 16. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 17. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 18. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 19. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 20. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 21. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 22. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 23. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 24. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 25. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 26. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 27. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 28. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 29. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 30. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 31. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 32. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 33. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 34. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 35. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 36. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 37. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 38. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 39. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 40. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 41. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 42. J. J. Lehto (Fin), 43. J. J. 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6.15 **I Love Lucy** (b/w) (67738)  
6.45 **Spiff and Hercules** (2548554)  
7.00 **The Big Breakfast** (67047)  
9.00 **You Bet Your Life**. Game show (s) (46405)  
9.30 **Schools** (929660)  
12.00 **The Parliament Programme** (26641)  
12.30 **Sesame Street**. Entertaining early-learning series (t) (96689) 1.30 **Take Five**. Cartoons (50196)  
2.00 **Film: Night Heat** (1948, b/w) starring Maxwell Reed and Robin Williams. Crime drama about two former second world war comrades who end up on different sides of the law — one as a policeman, the other a black marketer. Directed by Harold Huth (85641)  
3.30 **Really Rosie**. Animated tale with music written and sung by Carole King (486)  
4.00 **The Trial of Peter Rabbit**. A *Survival* documentary about a year in the life of a family of rabbits living in a warren in Wimpole, Cambridgeshire (t) (221)  
4.30 **Fishes To Go**. (Teletext) (s) (405)  
5.00 **The Oprah Winfrey Show**. The guests are the hostess's crimpier and beautician who transform her stage manager Sally into a glamorous television star. (Teletext) (s) (7057301)  
5.50 **The Magic Roundabout** (947370)  
6.00 **Mork and Mindy**. American comedy series starring Robin Williams and Pam Dawber (t) (370)  
6.30 **Erie, Indiana**. Surreal-type comedy (s) (950)  
7.00 **Channel 4 News** (Teletext) and weather (864978)  
7.50 **Comment**. Patrick Jenn argues that the only way to save the traditional country pub is to do away with the jukeboxes and gaming machines and reinstate "real" beer (400376)  
8.00 **People First: Breaking the Silence**. Documentary series on disability issues. This programme follows the stories of four people who felt disadvantaged and disempowered when reporting abuse (Teletext) (9392)  
8.30 **The World in a Garden**. The second of a four-part series following the restoration of the garden of Biddugh Grange in Staffordshire to its former glory. (t) (Teletext) (s) (9399)

**Tour of Islamic art: Dr Sabiha Khemir (3.00pm)**

**9.00 Rear Window: The Khalil Collection**  
**Dispersed By: Sam Choo (471405)**

**9.45 The Winner: Winner Series: Dean Rusk** A passion of award-winning animators begins with Barry Purves's Oscar-nominated study of unrequited love (s) (281592)

**0.00 Film: Sexual Advances (1952)** starring Stephanie Zablocki and William Rust. Dean Rusk's personal life and career are thrown into turmoil when she is submitted to a campaign of sexual harassment by a colleague. Directed by Donna Deitch (Teletel) (s) (976582)

**1.40 On, Adult** comedy about the love life of a divorced New York publisher. Starring Brian Benben. (Teletel) (s) (547026)

**2.15am Four-Mations Winners: Alice (1988)** Animator Jan Svankmajer's feature-length exploration of the dark undercurrents of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* using cartoon characters and an actress (Krisyna Kholodova) (336516)

**1.50 The Nat King Cole Show (b/w)**. The guests are Peggy King, Billy Preston and Cornel Wilde (7598448). Ends at 2.15

## Blanket

\$575,000) 8.00  
 Hards On Out (1837)  
 The Grand Prix Car  
 (3646) 6.00  
 1,000ps Beakout  
 (243379) 8.00  
 Eurofin (1359) 8.00  
 Genes (27487) 8.00  
 30 Snicker (14009)  
 (35210)  
 Teams (316362) 7.30  
 6.00 Sore and  
 6.30 Eurofin  
 Bill (526106) 8.30  
 6.30 (323022) 10.00  
 Happy Ever After  
 and Daughters  
 (131415)  
 (356553) 1.30 The Bill  
 (135281)  
 (763383) 3.00 Defies

Cue (364519) 8.00 Neighbors (763552)  
 8.30 When the Show Comes in (625466)  
 7.30 The Magnificent Seven (321123) 8.00  
 EastEnders (469182) 8.30 Bread (1025650)  
 8.00 Casualty (678200) 18.00 The Bill  
 (1425579) 10.30 Life Without Games  
 (412211) 11.00 Dr Death Us Do R  
 (868655) 11.48 Dr Who The Master's  
 16-18(52) 12.48 Film Catchers (314  
 11.00 Starting Armies (5534) 11.15-  
 2.00am Video Dicks (784317)

### THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Jack in the Box (4446) 7.00m/Rickon  
 11 (1383) 8.00 Jack in the Box (5600) 11.00  
 3.30am Without Words (38487) 11.30 Say  
 AH!H! (8199) 12.00 Secret Valley (5778)  
 1.00pm Jack in the Box (65216) 2.00m Sore  
 and 6.30 Eurofin (1359) 8.00  
 6.00 Bobabobs (36454) 3.25 Ruffian 11  
 (3665979) 8.00 Pugsday's Summer (5551)  
 5.30 Secret Valley by the Bed (14025) 6.00-7.00  
 Fame (15660)

## REFERENCES

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Berbury (0227) 456755. Extn. 329, Mon-Sat  
from 12 noon.**

DINO 1: 1059Khz/285m, 1089Khz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2 FM 99.9-102.0. MUSIC FM 102.1-104.0. GLR: 1458Khz/206m; FM 94.9: WORLD SERVICE MW  
 94.9/453m; 9C: 94Khz/330m, LBC: 1152Khz/281m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548Khz/194m; FM 95.5. GLR: 1458Khz/206m; FM 94.9: WORLD SERVICE MW  
 94.9/453m. GL ASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz.  
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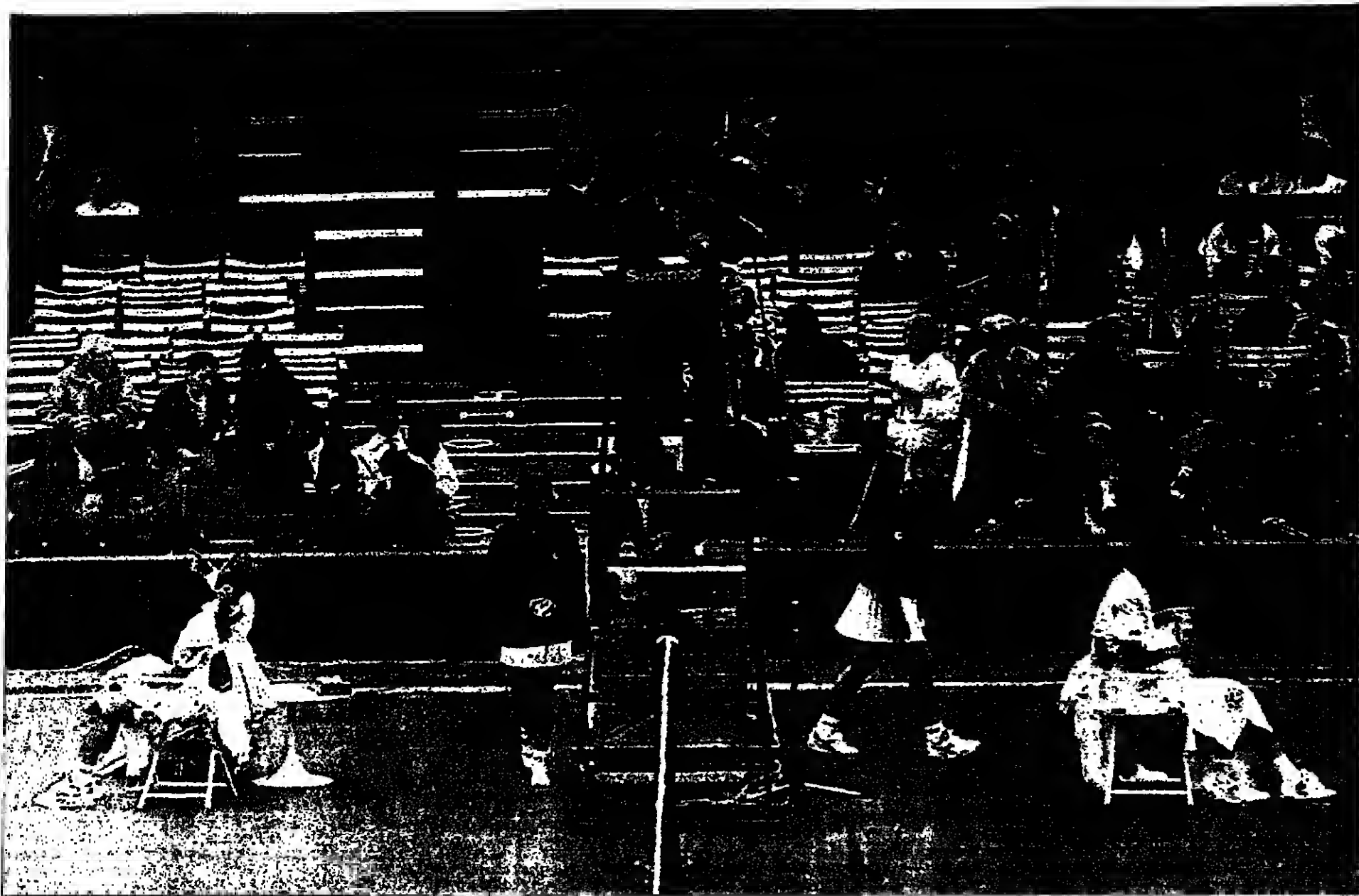
2.00-4.00 Wendy Lloyd  
 7.00 Jonathan Coleman 16.00 Nick Abbot

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY



TUESDAY JUNE 15 1993

## Women's tennis serves up back-to-back security



Eastbourne, where the most traditional English of all the pre-Wimbledon events is played, has responded to the calls for increased vigilance since the stabbing of Monica Seles in Hamburg in April (Alix Ramsay writes). The tournament director for this week's Volkswagen Cup, George Hendon, has drafted in extra security personnel

and has increased the police presence at Devonshire Park. "We have come up with a plan we believe is sufficient to ensure some madman will not be able to create a situation like in Hamburg," he said. One of the smaller but more noticeable moves has been to place the players' chairs on court with their backs to the umpire's chair, en-

abling the players to see the crowd at all times during the changeovers. With autograph hunters, young and old, out in force, Devonshire Park has traditionally been the place where the public can rub shoulders with the stars. Hendon's problem has been to maintain the open, friendly atmosphere of the tournament while ensuring

the players are protected. "There is a special relationship here between the players and the public and we didn't want to break that," he said. While Hendon is reluctant to give full details of the scale of the security operation, he is confident that he has the manpower to cover every eventuality while the town of Eastbourne has volunteered to foot

the bill for the extra policing. But if the aim is to protect the top players, Martina Navratilova does not seem bothered. "I will always flick my chair around to see the court," she said. "If someone has a gun it doesn't matter which way the chair is facing — we don't need to blow it out of all proportion."

(Photograph: Ian Stewart)

## Faldo looks to US Open for change in fortunes

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT  
IN SPRINGFIELD, NEW JERSEY

NICK Faldo was waiting to tee off yesterday, anxiously swishing his wooden-headed driver. "Come on Hult," he said, urging on the appearance at Baltusrol of Mike Hulbert with whom he was to play a practice round. Faldo was anxious to get to work. The US Open was three days away and Faldo's recent form has been bad.

It is a measure of Faldo's success these past years that one missed cut in the Volvo PGA championship last month at Wentworth, followed by a tied 33rd in the Dunhill British Masters at Woburn should constitute a crisis. Faldo, who has won five major championships, starting with the Open at Muirfield in 1987, is not used to such indignities.

Thus Baltusrol represents a chance for the world's number one player to right a rocking ship. It is the first time Faldo has played at the New Jersey club, which has been the site of six other US Opens. "I like it," he said. "It is a good course. It is fairer than many US Open courses. If you go in the rough you can get out and it might take a career-shot to reach the green, but you can at least try for it. And the rough around the greens is severe but at least it is playable. In the past in those positions it has been a case of hack and hope."

Faldo looked relaxed. He had spent an intensive four days since he arrived in the United States and he gave the impression that the practice had gone well. He looked like a runner who has just completed a series of strict work-outs.

Faldo began his latest foray to the US by visiting Pine Valley, the exclusive, men-only club in Clementon, New Jersey, which has one enormous bunker known as Hell's Half Acre and another, a ticklish monster on a short hole, nicknamed the Devil's derriere, although derriere is not the word used. It is said to be the toughest course in the world, one that is almost impossible to master on first sight.

Faldo was captivated. "It's wonderful," he said. "More British than a British golf club. I've found my goal — off the golf course. It is simply to build a club like Pine Valley in Britain."

He played the par-three course twice and then worked with Mitchell Spearman, David Leadbetter's chief lieutenant, for most of Friday before travelling to Baltusrol. "Boy, have I done some work these past few days," he asked rhetorically. "It has mainly been fine-tuning, but I am happy with the way it has gone. I spent three hours putting on Sunday. It seems to me to be an improvement if I get the ball further forward."

The lower course at Baltusrol is unusual in that



Faldo relaxed

as it is set up for the US Open, it has only two par fives — and they come at the 17th and 18th. "The start is tough here," Faldo said. "The 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th are all hard. You have to drive well and the greens are small. Then there is a bit of a rest and then you get to the end."

He sighed at the thought of the back-breaking two closing holes, which total 1,172 yards in all. The 17th is a great three-shot par five. The 18th is tough. Although it is reachable in two shots, the second is probably going to be played with a wood from a downslope and uphill. He grinned. "Some hole."

Singh on song, page 36

## Agassi enjoys Wimbledon boost

BY STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

WIMBLEDON'S seedings committee chose yesterday to elevate the status of Andre Agassi, the men's champion, and Martina Navratilova, who have been promoted above their world rankings for the championships which begin next Monday.

Agassi, the holder of the men's title, has been out of action for two months with tendinitis of the right wrist. His availability has been in doubt and not until he received the last wild card from the tournament organisers in Halle at the weekend was he assured of any competitive practice on grass.

Today, as he starts his comeback in Germany against Carl-Uwe Steeb, he will enter the draw as the eighth seed. In the world he is ranked No 13. "It was a difficult decision, bearing in mind he has not played much because of injury," Alan Mills, the tournament referee, said.

"But he is the defending champion and he has proved that he can play on grass." In spite of his promotion, which was widely expected, Agassi will still make history when he follows tradition and opens the championship on the centre court. No holder has ever been ranked lower.

Navratilova's rise was also forecast, although she insists that she did not campaign for it. She was playing cards, waiting for the rain to stop falling on Eastbourne, when she heard that her chances of claiming a tenth title had been significantly improved. Ranked fourth in the world, she is seeded second.

As Monica Seles is still recuperating from the knife wound she sustained six weeks ago, Navratilova cannot meet the clear favourite, Steffi Graf, until the final. "Her past record speaks for itself," Mills said. "Her worst performance here over the years has been losing in the quarter-finals."

That was to Jennifer Capriati in 1991. She was eliminated so early in the DFS Classic at Edgbaston last week that she decided to seek additional practice on the south coast, so far in vain. Only marginally, according to Mills, was she preferred above the tenacious Spaniard, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario.

Stefan Edberg, of Sweden, the champion in 1988 and 1990, has received similar recognition from the committee but he may not thank the members for it. He could find himself in the same half of the draw as Boris Becker, who

## Men's singles

- 1 P Sampras (US)
- 2 S Edberg (Swe)
- 3 J Courier (US)
- 4 B Becker (Ger)
- 5 G Lendl (US)
- 6 M Stich (Ger)
- 7 J Capriati (US)
- 8 A Agassi (US)
- 9 A Kijack (Pol)
- 10 A Macleod (UK)
- 11 P Korda (Cz)
- 12 M Chang (US)
- 13 W Ferreira (SA)
- 14 M Westwood (UK)
- 15 K Novacek (Cz)
- 16 T Muster (Austria)

## Women's singles

- 1 S Graf (Ger)
- 2 M Navratilova (US)
- 3 A Sanchez Vicario (Sp)
- 4 G Sabatini (Arg)
- 5 M Fernandez (US)
- 6 C Martinez (Sp)
- 7 J Capriati (US)
- 8 J Novotna (Cz)
- 9 A Huber (Ger)
- 10 M Melese (Bul)
- 11 M Melese-Fragiere (Switz)
- 12 K Melese (Bul)
- 13 M Pierce (F)
- 14 A Coster (SA)
- 15 H Sukova (Cz)
- 16 N Tauziat (F)

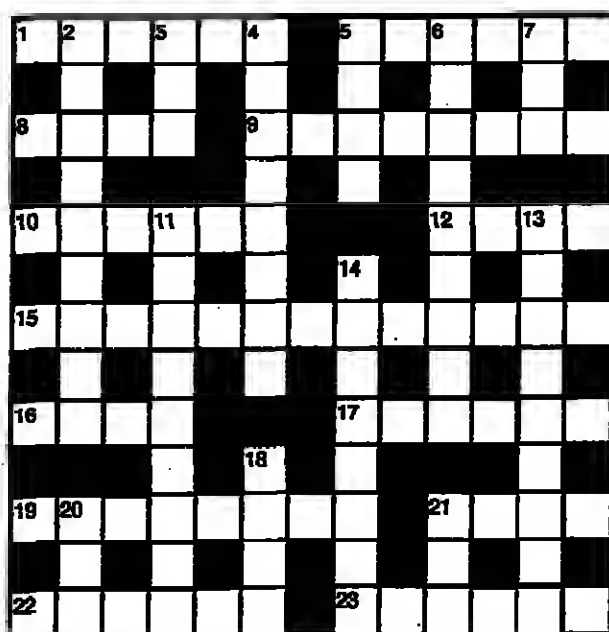
won the title in 1985, 1986 and 1989, and the dangerous Michael Stich.

In winning the Stella Artois title at Queen's Club on Sunday, Stich confirmed that he is

in prime form. Indeed, at odds of 9-2, he is favoured to repeat his victory of 1991 (when he overcame his German compatriot, Becker) with Edberg and Sampras, who was confirmed



No 1 seeds: Sampras, left, and Graf



## ACROSS

- 1 Sudden alarms (6)
- 2 Sanitising ring (6)
- 3 Cesspool (4)
- 4 Cleaning woman (8)
- 5 Polish pianist/composer (6)
- 6 Carpenter's grip (4)
- 7 Peevishness (13)
- 8 Fit (4)
- 9 Birthmark (6)
- 10 Nazi cross (8)
- 11 Radar screen pip (4)
- 12 Gaul (6)
- 13 Curdled milk food (6)

## DOWN

- 2 Golf pavilion (4,5)
- 3 Snack (3)
- 4 After the first (8)
- 5 Edible mollusc (4)
- 6 Pertinence (9)
- 7 Unusual (3)
- 8 Utter powerlessness (9)
- 9 Theatre dress supplier (9)
- 10 Predicament (8)
- 11 Brick oven (4)
- 12 Conflict (3)
- 13 Huge (3)

## SOLUTIONS TO NO 3121

ACROSS: 1 Non appearance 3 Towns 9 Sherbet 10 Set 11 Omega 12 Ewe lamb 14 Answer 16 Chichi 20 Imagine 23 Sixth 24 Ash 25 Tipster 26 In one 27 Chafe at the bit  
DOWN: 1 Nationalistic 2 Newness 3 Passage 4 Easter 5 Reeve 6 Nubia 7 Establishment 13 Let 15 Wag 17 Hashish 18 Concomb 19 Learn 21 Alpha 22 Isite

as the No 1 seed. William Hill has described the men's event as "the most open in living memory".

The committee chose Jim Courier as the third seed, even though his game is more suited to slower surfaces. A year ago he was beaten in the third round by a qualifier from Russia, Andrei Olhovskiy. Goran Ivanisevic, the talented but erratic Croat who reached the final last year, is fifth.

Becker and Stich are seeded fourth and sixth respectively. Ivan Lendl is fortunate to be seventh, although it matches his world ranking. He has recently been knocked out in the first round of the Italian Open in Rome, the French Open in Paris and at Queen's.

Wayne Ferreira, the holder of the Stella Artois title until he collapsed against Stich, might have been given a higher station than thirteenth but it hardly matters. Those seeded from ninth to sixteenth receive the same benefit. They will not meet a higher-ranked player until the round before the quarter-final.

Michael Chang, the twelfth seed, went to Germany specifically to be certain of genuine practice. The British weather, he says, is too unpredictable (as all those at Eastbourne will agree) and he travelled instead to Halle. As with all the best

laid plans, his went awry.

He was beaten yesterday in the first round by Bernd Karbacher, the German who had also ended his challenge in the French Open. "I am going to spend a few more days here," Chang said, "and then hope that it doesn't rain in London."

After almost two hours of deliberation, the committee also recognised the grass-court qualities of Richard Krajicek, the giant Dutchman, and MaliVai Washington, a stocky American. Both of them are seeded three places above their world rankings, at nine and 14 respectively.

Only three seeds in the men's singles have been matched with their world rankings (Sampras, even though he had won only one match at Wimbledon until he reached the semi-final last year, and Becker as well as Lendl). The committee has not tinkered so readily with the women's singles.

Nor did it need to. Graf, at odds of 4-7, is expected to retain the title, particularly in the absence of Seles. Apart from Navratilova, the rest of the field will line up as they do in the official list — down to and including Natalie Tauziat, who is seventeenth in the world.

Rochampton déloge, page 38

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